

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF LEE

DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, information obtained from the office of the Lee County Emergency Services and the Local Health Department indicates that COVID-19, a pandemic, is suspected of impacting North Carolina, including the population within Lee County; and,

WHEREAS, this COVID-19 pandemic is a respiratory illness that can lead to serious illness or death and impacts could include, but not be limited to, volumes of “suspected coronavirus” patients and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has warned of the health threat posed by COVID-19 globally and in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, as a result of the pandemic we have determined that there is an imminent threat to the public health and welfare of the citizens of Lee County; and,

WHEREAS, declaring a State of Emergency and imposing the restrictions and prohibitions ordered herein is necessary to maintain order and protect public health, safety, and welfare; and,

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the State of North Carolina, through the Office of the Governor, Roy Cooper, issued Executive Order No. 116 titled “Declaration of a State of Emergency to Coordinate Response and Protective Actions to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19;” and,

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared the COVID-19 a pandemic of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant an emergency declaration for all states, tribes, territories, and the District of Columbia; and,

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, the State of North Carolina, through the Office of the Governor, Roy Cooper, issued Executive Order No. 117 titled “Prohibiting Mass Gatherings and Directing the Statewide Closure of K-12 Public Schools to Limit the Spread of COVID-10;” and,

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in the Chair of the Board of Commissioners of Lee County, under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes and Chapter 10, Article IV of the Lee County Code of Ordinances titled “Emergency Management,” and any and all applicable local plans, mutual assistance compacts and agreements, we hereby declare:

Section 1. That a State of Emergency exists within the County of Lee.

Section 2. We hereby order all County of Lee law enforcement officers and employees and all other emergency management personnel subject to our control to cooperate in the

enforcement and implementation of the provisions of this declaration, all applicable local ordinances, state and federal laws, and the Lee County Emergency Operations Plan.

Section 3. The County of Lee Manager is hereby authorized to take all necessary actions in order to maintain the public order or afford adequate protection for lives, safety or property as needed and is authorized to close public facilities, limit the public's access to facilities in order to maintain social distancing measures, or keep public facilities open but restrict public access if deemed necessary to protect the health and safety of Lee County employees and Lee County citizens.

Section 3. Pursuant to Section 10-132 and 10-141 of Chapter 10, Article IV of the Lee County Code of Ordinances, the Chair of the Lee County Board of Commissioners is authorized to issue this Declaration of a state of emergency and can place any or all restrictions as set forth through Section 10-133 through 10-139 and therefore also has the authority to amend this declaration by means of a superseding declaration with the procedures as set forth in Section 10-133 of the Lee County Code of Ordinances. The Chair will take reasonable steps to give notice of the terms of the superseding declaration and shall post a copy in the county courthouse.

Section 4. I hereby order this declaration: (a) to be distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) to be filed with Clerk to the Lee County Board of Commissioners, and (c) to be distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

Section 5. This declaration shall take effect upon execution and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded.

DECLARED this the 16th day of March, 2020 at 7:11 P.M.