

**DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY**  
**For**  
**PITT COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, which is a new strain of coronavirus previously unidentified in humans and which can spread from person to person; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) declared COVID-19 as a Public Health Pandemic of International concern on March 11, 2020. The United States Centers for Disease Control (“CDC”) has reported the high public health threat posed by COVID-19, both globally and to the United States and has determined it necessary to prohibit or restrict travel areas designated by the CDC; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency in the United States for COVID-19 under section 319 of the Public Health Services Act; and

**WHEREAS**, The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (“NCDDHS”) confirmed multiple cases of COVID-19 in this state; and

**WHEREAS**, The North Carolina Division of Emergency Management has activated the NC Emergency Operation Center to manage public health; 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**, in consultation with health care professionals and based upon guidance from CDC and NCDHHS, arrangements must be made immediately to take such actions as are deemed necessary and appropriate to ensure that COVID-19 remains controlled and that residents and visitors in Pitt County remain safe and secure; and

**WHEREAS**, declaring a State of Emergency and imposing restrictions and prohibitions ordered herein is necessary to maintain order and protect public health, safety, and welfare, to secure life, property, and government stability; and

**WHEREAS**, the County and its infrastructure of government, public safety organizations, public health, medical communities, school systems, and all other County agencies will coordinate with CDC, State, and Federal government response agencies to manage, and resolve the potential of COVID-19.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, of Pitt County under Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes and State of Emergency Ordinance of the Pitt County Code of Ordinances:

**Article 1.** A State of Emergency is hereby declared within the jurisdiction of Pitt County.

**Article 2.** The emergency area covered by this state of emergency shall be all areas within the jurisdiction of Pitt County

**Article 3.** The following restrictions and prohibitions are imposed:

A. **Evacuation:** Not applicable

B. **Curfew:** Not applicable

C. **Alcohol:** Not applicable

D. **Dangerous Weapons, Substance, & Gasoline:** Not applicable

E. **Restricted Public Access:** Pitt County Government facilities will restrict access to the public until further notice with the exception of Public Health and the Department of Social Services that will see clients subject to modifications or change. The public is asked to utilize services via online, by phone or by appointment.

F. **Miscellaneous Prohibitions and Restrictions:** Proclamations will be issued for curfew and other prohibitions and restrictions as merited by circumstances.

**Article 4.** I hereby order all county 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 Pitt County Emergency Operations Plan.

**Article 5.** 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 Board of Commissioners and (c) to be distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

**Article 6.** This declaration shall take effect on March 19, 2020 at 8:00 am and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded.

**DECLARED** this the March 18, 2020 at noon.



  
Chairman of the Board of Commissioners