



CITY OF TAMPA

— OFFICE OF THE MAYOR —

Jane Castor, Mayor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-27

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, **President Donald J. Trump** issued a Proclamation Declaring a National Emergency concerning Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, **Governor Ron DeSantis** issued Executive Order Number 20-51 declaring a Public Health Emergency in the State of Florida due to the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 20-52, declaring a State of Emergency for the State of Florida, extending to all sixty-seven (67) counties, including Hillsborough County and the City of Tampa, due to COVID-19, which Executive Order Number 20-52 was extended for an additional sixty (60) days on May 8, 2020, by Executive Order Number 20-114; and

WHEREAS, between March 17, 2020 and the date hereof, Governor Ron DeSantis issued several Executive Orders placing numerous restrictions on individuals and businesses in response to the state-wide threat of the spread of COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 20-112, as modified by Executive Order Number 20-120 on May 9, 2020, and Executive Order Number 20-123 on May 14, 2020, in response to the recommendations set forth in Phase 1 of the plan issued by the Task Force to Re-Open Florida, and adopted a phased approach to remove or decrease certain restrictions imposed pursuant to the Executive Order Number 20-91, Safer-At-Home Order; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 20-139, moving all counties in Florida, other than Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties, into Phase 2 of the plan issued by the Task Force to Re-Open Florida, which Order supersedes Executive Order Number 20-91, the Safer at Home Order, and supersedes in part, and extends and modifies other provisions of, Executive Order Number 20-112; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the **Hillsborough County Emergency Policy Group** issued an Executive Order declaring a local state of emergency in response to a county-wide threat from COVID-19, which Order has been extended numerous times, and most recently on June 18, 2020; and

WHEREAS, between March 12, 2020 and the date hereof, the Hillsborough County Emergency Policy Group issued several Executive Orders in response to a county-wide threat of the spread of COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, between March 16, 2020 and the date hereof, the **County Administrator of Hillsborough County** issued several Administrator Orders in response to a county-wide threat of the spread of COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, pursuant to Section 2-402 of the City of Tampa Code, as **Mayor of the City of Tampa**, I issued City of Tampa Executive Order 2020-01 declaring that a state of local emergency has occurred in the City of Tampa in response to a city-wide threat of the spread of COVID-19, which state of local emergency was re-declared by City of Tampa Executive Order 2020-02 on March 16, 2020, and which Order has been extended numerous times, and most recently on June 15, 2020; and

WHEREAS, between March 12, 2020, and the date hereof, as Mayor of the City of Tampa, I issued several City of Tampa Executive Orders in response to the city-wide threat of the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, based on recent information and data from the Hillsborough County Department of Health, the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Hillsborough County, and in particular in the City of Tampa, has increased significantly since additional re-openings were authorized under Phase 2 of the Governor’s Plan for Florida’s Recovery, which increase has resulted in many additional deaths; and

WHEREAS, based on advice from medical professionals the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Hillsborough County, and in particular in the City of Tampa, will increase exponentially if additional measures to stop or slow the spread of COVID-19 are not instituted; and

WHEREAS, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) has expressly found that: “COVID-19 spreads mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Studies and evidence on infection control report that these droplets usually travel around 6 feet (about two arms lengths)”;

WHEREAS, the CDC therefore specifically recommends that as businesses and communities reopen, and people resume their daily activities, people should wear face coverings to slow the spread of COVID-19, particularly “in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain”;

WHEREAS, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and Sec. 2-403, City of Tampa Code, authorize the Mayor to take whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the community during a state of emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa by Article VII, Civil Emergencies, Sections 2-401, et. seq., of the City of Tampa Code, and the Charter of the City of Tampa, and the Laws of the State of Florida, I hereby issue this Executive Order declaring the following:

Section 1. Definitions.

“Face Covering” shall mean a uniform piece of material that securely covers a person’s nose and mouth and remains affixed in place without the use of one’s hands, whether store-bought or homemade, concurrent with CDC guidelines. Examples of compliant home-made masks may be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-make-cloth-face-covering.html>

“Social Distancing” shall mean keeping space between yourself and other people by staying at least 6 feet (about 2 arms’ length) from other people.

“Companion” shall mean a person by whom you are accompanied.

Section 2. Face Coverings required.

- a. Every person working, living, visiting, or doing business in the City of Tampa shall wear a face covering in any indoor location, other than their home or residence, when not maintaining social distancing from other person(s), excluding family members or companion(s).
- b. Nothing herein shall require or allow a person to wear a face covering so as to conceal the identity of the wearer in violation of Fla. Stat. Chapter 876.
- c. Medical and surgical face masks, such as "N95" masks or other similar medical or surgical masks, are in short supply and should be reserved for health care personnel and other first responders with the greatest need for such personal protective equipment.

Section 3. Exceptions.

Nothing herein shall require the wearing of face coverings by the following persons:

- a. Persons under the age of two years; and
- b. Persons observing social distancing in accordance with CDC guidelines; and
- c. Persons for whom a face covering would cause impairment due to an existing health condition; and
- d. Persons working in a business or profession who do not have interactions with other persons; and
- e. Persons working in a business or profession who maintain social distancing from another person; and

- f. Persons working in a business or profession where use of a face covering would prevent them from performing the duties of the business or profession; and
- g. Persons exercising, while maintaining social distancing; and
- h. Persons eating or drinking; and
- i. Public safety, fire and other life safety and health care personnel, as their personal protective equipment requirements will be governed by their respective agencies; and
- j. The requirement shall not apply when a person who is hearing-impaired needs to see the mouth of someone wearing a face covering in order to communicate.

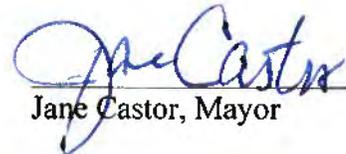
Section 4. Enforcement.

Pursuant to Sec. 252.46, Florida Statute, this Order shall have the full force and effect of law, and pursuant to Sec. 2-403, City of Tampa Code, a violation of this Order shall be a noncriminal civil infraction, enforceable under Sec. 1-6 and Sec. 23.5-4, City of Tampa Code, which carries a penalty of up to a \$500 fine.

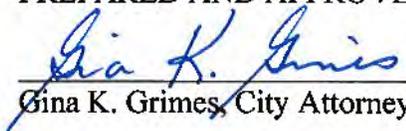
Section 5. Effective Date; Expiration Date.

- a. This Executive Order shall become effective on June 19, 2020, at 5:00 PM.
- b. This Executive Order shall remain in effect in the City of Tampa for so long as a state of local emergency is in effect pursuant to City of Tampa Executive Order, or unless otherwise modified or repealed.

DONE and ORDERED this 19 day of June 2020.


Jane Castor, Mayor

PREPARED AND APPROVED BY:


Gina K. Grimes, City Attorney