



PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

by the Chairman of the Wake County Board of Commissioners

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death by the SARS-Co-V-2 Virus. This is a new strain of coronavirus previously unidentified in humans 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 deemed it necessary to prohibit or restrict travel to 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 Service Act; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services ("NCDHHS") 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 the health impacts of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, The Governor of the State of North Carolina, in consultation with the Secretary of the NCDHHS, has declared a State of Emergency as defined by N.C. Gen. Stat. 166A-19.3(6) and 166A-19.3(19) for the State of North Carolina based on the public health emergency posed by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in consultation with health care professionals and based upon guidance from the CDC and NCDHHS arrangements must be made immediately to take such actions that are deemed necessary and appropriate to ensure that COVID-19 remains controlled and that residents in Wake County remain safe and secure;

WHEREAS, the spread of the disease poses an imminent threat to property in the County and its municipalities due to illness-related absenteeism, particularly among public safety personnel, healthcare personnel, and persons engaged in activities and businesses critical to the economy and infrastructure of the County and its municipalities; and

WHEREAS, local and state health departments must use all preventative measures, which will require access to available services, personnel, equipment, and facilities to respond to COVID-19.

WHEREAS, the Wake County Public Health Director has confirmed a public health threat due to the confirmed spread of COVID-19; and

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority contained in Article 1A of N.C. Gen. Stat. Chapter 166A, Article 36A of N.C. Gen. Stat. Chapter 14, and Title VII, Section 70 of the Wake County Code of Ordinances, I, Gregory Ford, Chairman of the Wake County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim that a **STATE OF EMERGENCY** exists within the County of Wake and by request of the mayors or their appointed representatives of the City of Raleigh and the Towns of Apex, Cary, Fuquay-Varina, Garner, Holly Springs, Knightdale, Morrisville, Rolesville, Wake Forest, Wendell and Zebulon, within the corporate limits of those municipalities.

I further proclaim that the ordinances set forth below, which are contained in Chapter 70 of the Wake County Ordinance, are necessary in order to maintain an acceptable level of public order, services, and protection of lives, safety and property during this emergency, and that the same shall be in effect within the County of Wake and by request of the chief elected officials of the above-referenced municipalities within the corporate limits of those municipalities, until this Proclamation is rescinded. I hereby order all county employees and all other emergency management personnel subject to my control to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the emergency management ordinances set forth below.


I further proclaim that the Emergency Operations Plan adopted by the County of Wake, and all applicable mutual assistance compacts and agreements are in effect and shall remain in effect until this Proclamation is rescinded. All emergency management personnel subject to my control are hereby ordered to cooperate in the implementation of the provisions of the County's Emergency Management Plan and all applicable mutual assistance compacts and agreements, and to furnish assistance thereunder.

I hereby delegate to the Wake County Manager, and/or his designee, all power and authority granted to me and required of me by Article 1A of Chapter 166A and Article 36A of Chapter 14 of the North Carolina General Statutes, and by Title VII, Section 70 of the Wake County Code of Ordinances, for the purpose of implementing the referenced Emergency Operations Plan, and to take such further action as is necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of those dwelling in the County.

I direct that copies of this Proclamation be disseminated to the mass communications media for publication and broadcast, and that a copy of the Proclamation be posted at the Wake County Courthouse and other public buildings as appropriate.

This Proclamation shall become effective immediately upon endorsement and shall continue until rescinded pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. 166A-19.23(c).

PROCLAIMED this the 13th day of March 2020.



Gregory D. Ford, Chairman
Wake County Board of Commissioners