

**ORDER OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OF HILLSBOROUGH
COUNTY EXTENDING THE STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY
DECLARED ON MARCH 12, 2020 IN RESPONSE TO
A COUNTY WIDE THREAT FROM
THE COVID-19 VIRUS**

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Hillsborough County Emergency Policy Group issued an Executive Order declaring a local state of emergency for all of Hillsborough County due to the county wide threat from the COVID-19 virus, which order has been continuously extended as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida and Hillsborough County are continuing to experience reports of illnesses and persons testing positive for the virus; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order Number 20-51 (EO 20-51), declaring that a public health emergency exists throughout the State of Florida as a result of the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order Number 20-52, as extended by EO 20-114, EO 20-166, EO 20-213, EO 276 and, most recently by Executive Order Number 20-316 on December 29, 2020, declaring that a state of emergency exists throughout the State of Florida as a result of the spread of the COVID-19 virus and its imminent threat to health and welfare of the citizens of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order Number 20-68, as extended by EO 20-112, placing restrictions on certain businesses and public gathering locations throughout the State of Florida as a result of the spread of the COVID-19 virus and its imminent threat to health and welfare of the citizens of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 20-112, as amended, superseded, or modified by EO 20-114, EO 20-120, EO 20-123, and EO 20-139 providing a path to re-opening Florida and promoting business operations and economic recovery by implementing Phase 1: Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida's Recovery; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 20-139, adopting the recommendations in Phase 2 of the plan published by the Task Force to Re-Open Florida; and

WHEREAS, on September 25, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 20-244, determining that the State and businesses have suffered economic harm as a result of COVID-19 related closures, exacerbating the impacts of the State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has determined that Floridians should not be prohibited by local governments from working or operating a business; and

WHEREAS, all Executive Orders of the Governor not rescinded or otherwise terminated remain in effect, as modified or amended, and are forecast to remain so for the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, although the spread of COVID-19 has slowed, it remains as a significant health threat to the State of Florida and Hillsborough County; and

WHEREAS, on August 5, 2020 the Board of County Commissioners enacted Hillsborough County Ordinance 20-15, amending Hillsborough County Ordinance 06-13 (Hillsborough County Code of Laws and Ordinances, Part A, Chapter 22, Article II, Sections 22-19 through 22-30); and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 20-15 abolished the Hillsborough County Emergency Policy Group and transferred its powers and authority to the Board of County Commissioners, the Board Chair, or designee; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 20-15 preserved in effect the Emergency Policy Group's March 12, 2020 executive order declaring a local state of emergency, as amended and extended, and the Emergency Policy Group's June 22, 2020 executive order mandating face coverings be worn in indoor locations of businesses, with certain exceptions, as amended and extended; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 20-15 authorizes the Board of County Commissioners, Board Chair, or County Administrator as designee to amend, extend, or rescind the executive orders of March 12, 2020, and June 22, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Hillsborough County must continue to take emergency action to lessen the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and Hillsborough County Ordinance 06-13 (Hillsborough County Code of Laws and Ordinances, Part A, Chapter 22, Article II, Sections 22-19 through 22-30), as amended, authorizes Hillsborough County to declare a state of local emergency; and

WHEREAS, a local state of emergency declared under the authority of Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and Hillsborough County Ordinance 06-13 (Hillsborough County Code of Laws and Ordinances, Part A, Chapter 22, Article II, Sections 22-19 through 22-30), as amended, shall have a duration of no more than seven days, renewable for further periods of no more than seven days in each successive renewal period.

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA, THIS 7th DAY OF JANUARY 2021, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY

DELEGATED TO HER BY HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY ORDINANCE 20-15 ISSUES THIS ORDER RESOLVING THAT:

1. The said ongoing threat of COVID-19, poses a serious threat to the health and welfare of the people of Hillsborough County, Florida.
2. The Executive Order of the Emergency Policy Group declaring a local state of emergency on March 12, 2020, which order has been continuously extended by the Emergency Policy Group and the Board of County Commissioners as required by law, is hereby extended for another seven-day period, effective immediately for the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Hillsborough County.
3. All provisions and authorizations contained in the Executive Order of March 12, 2020, as amended and extended, remain in effect and are made a part of this Order.
4. This Order shall take effect immediately upon adoption and shall remain in effect for seven days unless extended or rescinded.

Bonnie M. Wise



County Administrator, Hillsborough County

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STATE OF FLORIDA)
)
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH)

I, **CINDY STUART**, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Ex Officio Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing Order is a true and correct copy of the Order executed by the County Administrator of Hillsborough County, Florida, on January 7, 2021.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this 7th day of January 2021.

CINDY STUART
Clerk of Circuit Court

By: *Michael H. Dit*
Deputy Clerk



APPROVED BY THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

BY: *Paul D. Johnston*
Approved as to form and legal Sufficiency