



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Section 33-15-17(d), of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended authorizes the Board to Supervisors to proclaim the existence of a civil emergency, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Jefferson County, Mississippi, is authorized to declare a State of Emergency and to promulgate such rules, regulations, and orders as they deem necessary to protect life and property; and

WHEREAS, on or around March 14, 2020, the Governor of the State of Mississippi has also declared a State of Emergency to further activate Mississippi's coordinate response across all levels of government, and to provide the necessary tools and resources to protect the public health of all Mississippians and combat the spread of COVID-19. In addition, the Governor's State of Emergency has urged Mississippians to stay away from large gatherings, practical social distancing and telework if possible; and

WHEREAS, school districts, universities and other agencies and businesses across the state of Mississippi have closed due to the public health threat of COVID-19. Jefferson County encourages its citizens to take caution, pay special attention to hand washing and other recommendations by the CDC; and

WHEREAS, due to the Federal and State Emergency declarations, and due to the most recent recommendation by the CDC, Jefferson County is strongly recommending against gatherings of ten (10) people or more, this includes all bars, night clubs and other social gathering entities. Jefferson County will return the hours of operation of county office personnel to 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. as an amendment of the Proclamation made Thursday, March 19, 2020 until further order of the Board of Supervisors. The Victim of Crime Agency (VOCA) will conduct half day for each employee during this time and will be assessable by contacting (601) 597- 9075 or (601) 443- 1739. The public is encouraged to use services, through email, drop boxes, mail, and phone as alternative modes of receiving services. All organized/scheduled events in county facilities will be cancelled during this time and events will be re-scheduled or refunds issued; and

WHEREAS, due to the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors' meeting will potentially create gatherings of 10 people or more, the regular scheduled meetings will be streamed live to Facebook.

WHEREAS, in consideration of the health, safety, and welfare of the county's residents and the protection of the public health, the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors finds it necessary to implement the above precautions in response to the COVID-19 to protect our community. The Board of Supervisors is constantly re-evaluating and re-assessing COVID-19's threat to the citizens of Jefferson County and will weigh and assess other necessary precautionary measures to protect the citizens. The Board of Supervisors will continue to monitor this situation and coordinate with school, state and other county officials, as well as monitoring the federal government's response to address the needs of our county.

NOW, THEREFORE, as the Board of Supervisors of Jefferson County, Mississippi, pursuant to the authority resident in the board under Section 33-15-17(d) of the Mississippi Code of 1972, and in the public interest and for the general welfare of the Jefferson County, do hereby proclaim a State of Emergency for Jefferson County, and said emergency shall be reviewed at least every seven (7) days until such local emergency is no longer in effect and/or proclaimed terminated by the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors.

IT IS ORDERED that the Jefferson County Emergency Operation Plan is in effect.

IT IS FURTHERED ORDERED, that all agencies and departments of Jefferson County, Mississippi, shall render all possible assistance and discharge their emergency responsibilities and provide full cooperation with this Proclamation and amendments.

WITNESS MY HAND, on this 20th of March, 2020 at 1:25 p.m.


Anthony "Bruce" Walton, Board President

ATTEST:


Serena King, Chancery Clerk

