

CITY OF NORTH MIAMI DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, in the State of Florida 31 people have tested presumptively positive for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), a serious respiratory illness that causes symptoms similar to influenza including coughing, fever, and shortness of breath;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 constitutes a clear and present threat to the health and welfare of the people of Miami-Dade County and the City of North Miami;

WHEREAS, the City of North Miami is threatened by COVID-19 because of the apparent ability of the virus to spread rapidly among humans through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes;

WHEREAS, in 2019, a significant outbreak of COVID-19 emerged in Wuhan, China, and has spread to other countries, including the United States, and now to Miami-Dade County;

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is a major destination for visitors from around the world;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization's International Health Regulations Emergency Committee has declared the outbreak a "pandemic";

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020 Miami-Dade County issued a Declaration of a State of Emergency;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") is predicting that it is "likely" that "widespread transmission" of COVID-19 will occur in the United States;

WHEREAS, no vaccine or drug is currently available to combat COVID-19;

WHEREAS, City of North Miami residents should follow the recommendations of the CDC, taking commonsense, practical measures such as frequent hand washing, staying home when sick, and covering coughs and sneezes;

WHEREAS, Section 2-419 of the City of North Miami Code of Ordinances empowers the City Manager with the sole authority to declare a local State of Emergency when conditions such as those described above are found to exist and there is a danger for loss of life;

WHEREAS, Section 2-419 of the City of North Miami Code of Ordinances authorizes the City Manager to exercise extraordinary powers during the existence of a State of Emergency; activate emergency management plans, and take prudent action necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of residents of the City of North Miami,

Now, therefore, I, Arthur H. Sorey, III, Interim City Manager, by virtue of the power vested in me by the North Miami Code of Ordinances and Florida Statutes hereby take the following actions:

Section 1. Declaration of State of Emergency. Because of the foregoing conditions, I declare a state of emergency in the City of North Miami, Florida.

Section 2. Activation of Emergency Plans. All applicable emergency plans are activated.

Section 3. Legislative Action. A resolution ratifying this declaration of a state of emergency will be set on the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

Section 4. Duration. This state of emergency shall continue in effect from day-to-day until declared to be terminated by the City Manager or City Council in accordance with section 2-420.

Section 5. Notice. Written notice of this declaration of a state of emergency shall be posted in the main bulletin board in City Hall, and shall, be filed in the office of the City Clerk a notice of a declared state of emergency, or emergency measure declared or ordered and promulgated by virtue of Florida Statutes.

Section 6. Media Advisories. Public Information Officer is authorized to notify the local media by telephone, if practicable.

Section 7. Emergency Management. To ensure the health, safety and welfare of the community, and for purposes of emergency management, all procedures and formalities required by the NMCO are hereby waived pertaining to the appropriation of funds, making contracts, incurring obligations, obtaining and distributing equipment, materials and supplies.

Section 8. Other. Such other orders as are immediately necessary for the protection of life and property will be issued; provided that any such orders shall, at the earliest practicable time, be presented to the Mayor and City Council for ratification.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that during the existence of said emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the City Manager/designee of the City of North Miami be those prescribed by State law and the ordinances, resolutions, and approved plans of the City of North Miami in order to mitigate the effects of said emergency.

Dated: 3/13/2020

DocuSigned by:
Arthur H. Sorey, III
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By: Arthur H. Sorey, III, Interim City Manager

ATTEST:

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Vanessa Joseph, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

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Jeff P. H. Cazeau, City Attorney