



## OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

## PROCLAMATION NUMBER 01 CLS 2020

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*STATE OF EMERGENCY - CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)*


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- WHEREAS,** the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721 *et seq.*, confers upon the President of the Parish of Jefferson powers to deal with emergencies and disasters, including those caused by fire, flood, earthquake or other natural or manmade causes, in order to ensure that the preparations of this parish will be adequate to respond to such emergencies or disasters and to preserve the lives and property of the people of the Parish of Jefferson; and
- WHEREAS,** La. R.S. 29:727(D) empowers the President of the Parish of Jefferson to declare a local disaster or emergency, which shall continue until the President finds that the threat of danger has been dealt with to the extent that emergency conditions no longer exist; and
- WHEREAS,** La. R.S. 29:727(F) authorizes the Parish President to, among other things, suspend the provision of any regulatory ordinance prescribing the procedures for conduct of local business, or the orders, rules, or regulations of any local agency, if strict compliance with the provisions of any ordinance, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and
- WHEREAS,** the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease known as Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by a novel coronavirus named SARS-CoV-2 that was first detected in China and which has now been detected in more than 100 locations internationally, including in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** on January 31, 2020, Alex M. Azar, II, Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, declared a public health emergency to exist and to have existed nationwide since January 27, 2020 as a result of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization publicly characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 11, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation No. 25 JBE 2020, which declared a public health emergency to exist in the State of Louisiana as a result of the imminent threat posed to Louisiana citizens by COVID-19; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cases of COVID-19 have been reported by thirty-eight states and the District of Columbia; and
- WHEREAS,** of the fourteen current presumed positive cases of COVID-19 in the State of Louisiana, twelve are residents of Southeast Louisiana including one resident of Jefferson Parish; and



WHEREAS, there is reason to believe that COVID-19 may be spread amongst the population by various means of exposure, therefore posing a high probability of widespread exposure and a significant risk of substantial future harm to Jefferson Parish citizens; and

WHEREAS, to timely and effectively meet the dangers presented by the emergency, it is necessary to immediately effectuate measures to detect, prevent, prepare for, investigate, respond to, or recover from the emergency, and generally to preserve the lives and property of the people of the Parish of Jefferson.

NOW THEREFORE, I, CYNTHIA LEE SHENG, President of the Parish of Jefferson, by virtue of the authority vested by the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: Pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721 *et seq.*, a state of emergency is hereby declared to exist within and throughout the Parish of Jefferson as a result of the novel coronavirus named SARS-CoV-2 and the respiratory disease caused by it known as Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), which have created emergency conditions that threaten the lives and property of the citizens of this Parish.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020 at 3:25 PM    .m.

  
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PRESIDENT, PARISH OF JEFFERSON

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