

**NEW HANOVER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY**

Section 1: Pursuant to New Hanover County Code Chapter 17, Article III, Section 17.71 and Section 17.72, and North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 166A, Article 1A, 166A-19.22, the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners has determined that a State of Emergency as defined in the New Hanover County Code Section 17.71 exists in New Hanover County, and desires to further supplement Gubernatorial Executive Orders No. 117 and 118.

Section 2: Therefore, the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners, acting through the Chair, declares the existence of a State of Emergency in New Hanover County. Municipalities may consent to or request application of this declaration to their respective corporate limits.

Section 3: The New Hanover County Board of Commissioners hereby orders all county law enforcement officers, employees and all emergency management personnel to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of the county emergency ordinances, which are set forth below. This order and declaration is in addition to and concurrent with all public health control measures authorized in North Carolina General Statute 130A.

Section 4: Beaches.

Access to beaches including, but not limited to, wet and dry public trust strands is prohibited with noncompliance enforceable as a trespass and as otherwise authorized by General Statute 166A. This prohibition does not include boat launches or docks.

Section 5: Prohibitions and Restrictions.

Prohibited gathering is defined as any event or convening that brings together more than ten (10) persons in a single room or single space at the same time, such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, theater, or any other confined indoor or outdoor space. This includes parades, fairs, and festivals. A prohibited gathering does not include normal operations at airports, bus and train stations medical facilities, shopping malls and centers where more than ten (10) persons are gathered. It also does not include office environments, factories, grocery stores, or other retail establishments.

Section 6: Further Prohibitions and Restrictions.

Further prohibitions and restrictions on movements of people in public places, the operation of offices, businesses, and other places to which people may travel or congregate, and other activities and conditions of control as deemed reasonably necessary to maintain order and protect lives and property, may be implemented by subsequent amendment to this declaration.

Section 7: Execution of Emergency Plan. All persons and emergency management personnel within New Hanover County are ordered to comply with the emergency plan, including but not limited to further restrictions on public gatherings and business operations.

Section 8: This declaration shall become effective Friday, March 20th, 2020 at 5:00 am (p.m.) and remain in effect until rescinded.

Adopted this the 20th day of March 2020, at 5:00 am (p.m.)




Julia Olson-Boseman, Chair
Board of County Commissioners


Kimberleigh G. Crowell
Clerk to the Board