



St. Tammany Parish Government OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT

Executive Order

St. Tammany Parish Government Contact: 985-898-2700

EXECUTIVE ORDER REQUIRING MASKS OR FACIAL COVERINGS IN PUBLIC SPACES AND IMPOSING OTHER RESTRICTIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE PARISH-WIDE STATE OF EMERGENCY AS PER THE LOUISIANA HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND DISASTER ACT, LA. REV. STAT. 29:721, *ET SEQ.*, AS TO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19).

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. Rev. Stat. 29:721, *et seq.*, confers upon the Governor of the State of Louisiana and parish presidents emergency powers to prepare and cope with emergencies and disasters, including those caused by fire, flood, earthquake or other natural or manmade causes, in order to ensure that preparations will be adequate to cope with such emergencies or disasters and to preserve the lives and property of the people of the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, when the Parish President determines that a disaster or emergency has occurred, or the threat thereof is imminent, La. Rev. Stat. 29:727 empowers him to declare a state of emergency by executive order or proclamation; and

WHEREAS, La. Rev. Stat. 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, La. Rev. Stat. 29:727(F) further authorizes the Parish President to, among other things, control ingress and egress to and from the affected area, the movement of persons within the area, and the occupancy of premises therein; 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 Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, the Parish President, Michael B. Cooper, on March 13, 2020, declared a parish-wide state of emergency due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation No. 30 JBE 2020, which, among other things, ordered that all public gatherings of 50 or more persons be postponed or cancelled during the period from March 17, 2020 until April 13, 2020, due to the imminent threat posed to Louisiana citizens by COVID-19, closed certain business establishments, and limited access to restaurants and other dining establishments; and



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WHEREAS, on March 22, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation No. 33 JBE 2020, which, among other things, ordered a statewide stay-at-home directive, limited all gatherings to 10 persons or less, and closed or reduced operations for certain businesses, all due to the imminent threat posed to Louisiana citizens by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Parish President, Michael B. Cooper, on March 23, 2020, issued an Executive Order which, among other things, ordered a parish-wide stay-at-home directive and limited all gatherings to 10 persons or less; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation No. 41 JBE 2020, which, among other things, extended the statewide stay-at-home directive, limitations of all gatherings to 10 persons or less, and closed or reduced operations for certain businesses, until April 30, 2020, or as extended by subsequent order; and

WHEREAS, the Parish President, Michael B. Cooper, on April 7, 2020, issued an Executive Order which, among other things, extended the parish-wide stay-at-home directive until April 30, 2020 and implemented additional safety measures; and

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation No. 52 JBE 2020, extending the statewide stay-at-home directive until May 15, 2020, or as extended by subsequent order; and

WHEREAS, the Parish President, Michael B. Cooper, on April 30, 2020, issued an Executive Order which, among other things, extended the parish-wide stay-at-home directive until May 15, 2020 and implemented additional safety measures; and

WHEREAS, on May 14, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation No. 58 JBE 2020, initiating Phase 1 of the State of Louisiana's recovery plan; and

WHEREAS, the Parish President, Michael B. Cooper, on May 15, 2020, issued an Executive Order which terminated the parish-wide stay-at-home directive and initiated Phase I of the Parish's recovery plan; and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation No. 74 JBE 2020, initiating Phase 2 of the State of Louisiana's recovery plan; and

WHEREAS, the Parish President, Michael B. Cooper, on June 5, 2020, issued an Executive Order which initiated Phase II of the Parish's recovery plan; and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation No. 83 JBE 2020, extending Phase 2 of the State of Louisiana's recovery plan for twenty-eight (28) days, until July 24, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2020, Parish President Michael B. Cooper issued an Executive Order which extended Phase II of the Parish's recovery plan until July 24, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on July 11, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation No. 89 JBE 2020, which imposed mandatory masks or facial coverings in public and other restrictions; and



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WHEREAS, since moving into Phase II, the Parish has experienced an alarming spike in new COVID-19 cases and COVID-related hospitalizations; and

WHEREAS, information and data from medical professionals indicate that COVID-19 is more likely to be spread from individual to individual through close contact indoors and particularly through gatherings when people do not practice social distancing or wear masks or face coverings; and

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 between individuals is greatly reduced through the wearing of masks or face coverings while indoors; and

WHEREAS, to effectively meet the dangers presented by the emergency and protect the health and safety of the people of the Parish, while continuing to pursue Phase II of the Parish's recovery plan pursuant to the Parish President's June 26, 2020 Executive Order, which remains in effect unless otherwise modified by this order or subsequent Executive Order, it is necessary to require individuals to wear personal protective masks or facial coverings while in any indoor or outdoor public spaces, and in public or commercial transportation or paratransit, and to impose other restrictions.

IT IS ORDERED that, pursuant to the authority vested in him through the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. Rev. Stat. 29:721, *et seq.*, specifically La. Rev. Stat. 29:727 (F), and in conformity with Proclamation No. 89 JBE 2020, Michael B. Cooper, as Parish President, orders that individuals in St. Tammany Parish, including within all municipal boundaries, shall wear face masks or face coverings which cover the nose and mouth in the following situations:

- When inside a commercial establishment or any other building or space open to the public, whether indoor or outdoor; and
- When riding in public or commercial transportation or paratransit.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the following individuals shall be exempt from the requirement to wear a face mask or facial covering:

- Persons younger than eight years old, however all children between the ages of two and seven years old are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering;
- Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a mask or facial covering. This includes persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a face covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance;
- Persons communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, when the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication;
- Persons who are consuming food or drinks;
- Persons who will not come in contact with any other individual (outside of their immediate household members) or who will be able to maintain strict social distancing of six feet apart from any other individual (outside of their immediate household members);
- Persons giving a speech for broadcast or to an audience; and
- Persons temporarily removing his or her face covering for identification purposes.



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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all businesses or organizations, including governmental offices, shall require all persons who enter the premises to wear a face covering, unless not required to by this Executive Order or Executive Proclamation No. 89 JBE 2020;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the June 26, 2020 Executive Order of Parish President Michael B. Cooper is hereby amended to provide that no bar, with or without a food service permit from the Louisiana Department of Health, shall allow for on premises consumption of any food or drinks. However, any bar shall be allowed to provide for takeout through drive-thru or curbside delivery, including alcoholic beverages, all in accordance with Executive Proclamation No. 89 JBE 2020;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the June 26, 2020 Executive Order of Parish President Michael B. Cooper is hereby amended to provide that crowd sizes are limited to no more than 50 people in any single indoor space at the same time. Crowd sizes are limited to no more than 50 people in any single outdoor space when individuals will be in close proximity to one another and unable to maintain strict social distancing of six feet apart from individuals who are not immediate household members. This crowd size limitation shall not apply to those businesses deemed essential as defined by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency or any businesses and organizations operating at 50% capacity pursuant to Proclamation No. 83 JBE 2020 and Parish President Michael B. Cooper's Executive Order of June 26, 2020, including churches and other faith-based organizations, all in accordance with Executive Proclamation No. 89 JBE 2020;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that enforcement of these requirements shall be handled by any authorized enforcement agency and in the manner as described in Proclamation No. 89 JBE 2020;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Executive Order shall remain in effect until July 24, 2020 or until terminated by subsequent Executive Proclamation or Order;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any person or entity who disregards, interrupts or interferes with the control of the Parish and/or Parish President shall be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

At Mandeville, Louisiana, this 13th day of July 2020 at 9:50 AM p.m.

Michael B. Cooper
Parish President

NOTICE POSTED AT:
St. Tammany Parish web-page: stpgov.org
and
21490 Koop Drive, Mandeville, La.
and
510 E. Boston Street, Covington, La.
and
701 N. Columbia Street, Covington, La
and
520 Old Spanish Trail, Slidell, La

Sworn and subscribed before me,

(Notary Public)

On this 13th day of July, 2020.

EMILY COUVILLON LABAR#31114