



# St. Tammany Parish Government **EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER**

## *Executive Order*

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*Emergency Operations Center Contact: 985-898-2359*

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**EXECUTIVE ORDER DECLARING 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**, 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 (38) states and the District of Columbia; and

**WHEREAS**, of the thirty-three (33) current presumed positive cases of COVID-19 in the State of Louisiana, thirty-one (31) are residents of Southeast Louisiana including two (2) residents of St. Tammany Parish; and

St. Tammany Parish 2190  
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**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 St. Tammany 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 of the Parish of St. Tammany; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result dangers presented by the emergency, Michael B. Cooper, as Parish President of St. Tammany Parish, heretofore invokes all rights and duties afforded him under La. Rev. Stat. 29:721, *et seq.*, and 29:727 (D) and all other applicable statutes and regulations, until further notice.

**IT IS ORDERED** that pursuant the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. Rev. Stat. 29:721, *et seq.*, specifically La. Rev. Stat. 29:727 (D), a Parish-wide state of emergency is declared as a result of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) which has created emergency conditions that threaten the safety of the citizens of this Parish; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Michael B. Cooper, as Parish President, maintains the authority to assume total control of the Parish including, but not limited to, all private and public properties and utilities necessary to ensure the safety, health and welfare of the citizens and property of this Parish and to issue all necessary orders; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Office of the Parish President will take all necessary steps to prevent the disruption of water, electricity, and other necessary utilities as a result of economic hardship to ensure the safety, health and welfare of the citizens of this Parish; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Office of the Parish President invokes all rights and remedies afforded it under all the laws and constitutions of the United States and State of Louisiana; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Office of the Parish President invokes all rights and remedies afforded it under Louisiana Revised Statutes; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Office of the Parish President invokes all rights and remedies afforded it under the St. Tammany Parish Code of Ordinances; and

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



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**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the state of emergency shall remain in effect until terminated by Executive Order.

At Mandeville, Louisiana, this 13 day of March 2020 at 2:20 p.m.

Michael B. Cooper  
Parish President

NOTICE POSTED AT:  
St. Tammany Parish web-page: [stpgov.org](http://stpgov.org)  
and  
21490 Koop Drive, Mandeville, La.  
and  
510 E. Boston Street, Covington, La.

Sworn and subscribed before me,

(Notary Public)

On this 13 day of March 2020.

Expires at death



**ANGEL L. BYRUM**  
Notary Public  
Notary ID No. 132455  
Orleans Parish, Louisiana