



WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSION

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DOUG SHORT
COMMISSIONER
1ST DISTRICT

DAVE SANSEGRAW
PRESIDING COMMISSIONER

CODY BRINLEY
COMMISSIONER
2ND DISTRICT

Declaration of State of Emergency for Washington County State of Missouri established by the Washington County Commission

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus (now known as "COVID-19") emerged in Wuhan, China, began infecting humans in December 2019, and has since spread worldwide, including the United States; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have declared COVID-19 a "pandemic," and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary has declared that COVID-19 creates a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, Washington County ("County") has been working in collaboration with local health and public safety agencies to monitor and plan for the containment and subsequent mitigation of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 18th, 2020, the Presiding Commissioner of Washington County authorized the activation of the Washington County Emergency Operations Center in support of the Washington County health and public safety agencies; and

WHEREAS, as of March 20th, 2020, there are 10,442 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in the United States resulting in 150 deaths; and

WHEREAS, as of March 20th, 2020 there are 47 confirmed positive cases in the State of Missouri resulting in 1 death; and

WHEREAS, while it is anticipated that a high percentage of those affected by COVID-19 will experience mild influenza-like symptoms, COVID-19 is a disease capable of causing severe symptoms or loss of life, particularly to older populations and those individuals with pre-existing conditions; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to prepare for and respond to suspected or confirmed cases in the County and to implement measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, this threat of imminent disaster and emergency has the potential to cause significant adverse impacts upon the population throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, this threat of imminent disaster and emergency has already caused local impacts and will likely prompt additional local measures; and

WHEREAS, this threat of imminent disaster and emergency situation throughout the County is of such magnitude and severity as to render essential the County's supplementation of emergency resources and mutual aid to the county and municipal governments of this County and to require the activation of all applicable state, county, and municipal emergency response plans.


NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the provisions under the authority of the Revised Statutes of Missouri Title V Military Affairs and Police, Chapter 44.080 Civil Defense statues, we do hereby proclaim the existence of a disaster emergency throughout the County.

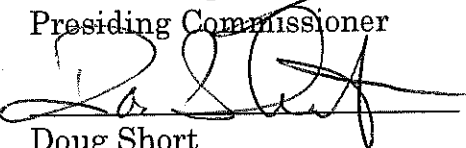
Effective at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 20, 2020, all county buildings will be closed to the general public until further notice. All Offices will remain staffed in order to provide services to the public by alternative means including all necessary court services in the Associate and Circuit Court, and absentee voting and the acceptance of Declarations of Candidacy in the County Clerk's Office. Employees are urged to practice "social distancing" while performing their regular duties.

The County Commission urges cancellation or suspension of public gatherings of 10 individuals or more if possible. Those who fall into high-risk categories are also urged to avoid public gatherings as much as possible.

PASSED THIS 20th DAY OF MARCH, 2020, BY THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSION


IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the Commission of the County of Washington have hereunto subscribed their names and have caused the Official Seal of the County of Washington to be hereunto affixed in on this 20th day of March in the year 2020.


Dave Sansegraw
Presiding Commissioner


Doug Short
First District Commissioner


Cody Brinley
Second District Commissioner

Attest:


Jeannette Allen
County Clerk