

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY REGULATIONS (FACE COVERINGS)

(COVID-19 State of Emergency – April 10, 2020)

WHEREAS, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and other potential methods, and presents symptoms similar to those of influenza;

WHEREAS, in December of 2019, a new and substantial outbreak of COVID-19 emerged in Wuhan, China, and has since spread rapidly to over 196 countries and territories throughout the World, including the United States, and more specifically Broward County and the City of Fort Lauderdale;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic;

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 20-52, declaring a state of emergency in the State of Florida, due to the public health threat resulting from the rapid spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-274(c) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Mayor Dean J. Trantalis issued and declared various emergency regulations on March 13, March 15, and March 17, 2020, to limit the spread and limit the risk of exposure to COVID-19, which were confirmed and approved unanimously by the City Commission on Friday, March 20, 2020;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-274(c) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Mayor Dean J. Trantalis issued and declared additional Emergency and “Safer at Home” Regulations on March 27, 2020, therein ordering residents to stay at home for purposes of protecting the health and well-being of the community, creating social distancing, and minimizing contact to limit community spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, as of April 9, 2020, at least 2,480 persons in Broward County and 16,826 persons in the State of Florida have tested positive for COVID-19, and 67 persons have died in Broward County, and 371 persons have died throughout the State of Florida, as a result of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently issued guidance that the general population should wear cloth face coverings to capture the respiratory droplets of asymptomatic people to slow the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, as of today, the City of Fort Lauderdale is aware of confirmed cases of COVID-19 within its jurisdictional boundaries. To limit the potential community spread of COVID-19, it is now necessary for the City of Fort Lauderdale to implement additional restrictions for the general health, safety, and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 252.38(3) and 252.46, Florida Statutes, and pursuant to Section 2-274(c) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, in the event of a proclamation of a state of emergency by the Governor, the Mayor of the City of Fort Lauderdale is empowered, in part, to “make and issue rules and regulations on matters reasonably related to the protection of life and property as affected by such emergency . . .”

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dean J. Trantalis, Mayor of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 2-274(c), Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida:

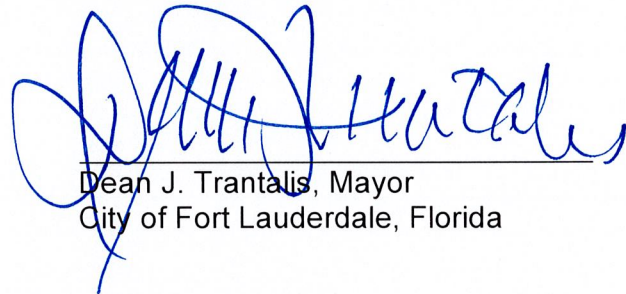
DO HEREBY ORDER AND DECLARE:

1. Any and all persons, including employees, while present within the interior of any and all essential services and businesses, as defined by Executive Order 20-91 issued by Governor DeSantis on April 1, 2020, as may be amended, and any and all persons while making deliveries or providing delivery services, are **required** to wear a form of covering over their nose and mouth at all times.
2. A covering over the nose and mouth may include a face mask, homemade mask, or other cloth covering, such as a scarf, bandana, handkerchief or other similar cloth covering. For purposes of this Declaration, persons are encouraged not to utilize N95 or medical grade surgical masks unless engaged in providing health care, police, fire, or emergency management services or other persons engaged in life-safety activities.
3. In addition to the foregoing requirements applicable to the interior of essential services and businesses, all other persons, including persons working, living, visiting, or doing business in the City of Fort Lauderdale, are **strongly encouraged** to wear a form of covering over the nose and mouth outside of their homes and residences.
4. Face coverings shall not be required for any outdoor activity deemed essential and permitted under any applicable City, County, or State orders and declarations, including Executive Order 20-91 issued by Governor DeSantis on April 1, 2020, as may be amended, except as provided herein with respect to persons providing delivery services.
5. Nothing herein shall operate to restrict any employee or person from accessing any essential service or business to address any emergency or other exigent circumstance if a covering over the nose and mouth is not readily accessible at the time of such emergency or exigent circumstance.

6. Essential services or facilities owned and managed by Broward County, the Broward County School Board, the North Broward Hospital District, the State of Florida, and the Federal Government, are exempt from these regulations.
7. This Declaration is in addition to, and supplements, the City's Declaration of Emergency and "Safer at Home" Regulations, dated March 27, 2020, the City's Declaration of Emergency Regulations, dated March 17, 2020, County Emergency Orders, and State of Florida Executive Orders.
8. Pursuant to Florida Statutes, Chapter 252, and Section 2-278, Code of Ordinances, City of Fort Lauderdale, any violation of any rule or regulation issued and set forth herein shall be punishable as provided in Florida Statute, Section 252.50, and/or Section 1-6, Code of Ordinances, City of Fort Lauderdale.
9. This Emergency Declaration is effective as of 12:01 am April 11, 2020 and shall remain in full force up through and including April 30, 2020, unless earlier terminated by subsequent Declaration.


Ordered in the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this 10th day of April, 2020.





Dean J. Trantalis, Mayor
City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Attest:



Jeff Modarelli
City Clerk