



Mayor's Office

Emergency Executive Order Number 5 March 30, 2020

Whereas, the Coronavirus (Covid-19) presents a serious threat to the safety and welfare of the residents of the City of Sweetwater and the County of Miami-Dade; and,

Whereas, COVID-19 is a natural emergency whose increasing effects are being felt within the City of Sweetwater and that on account thereof, there is reason to believe that it is necessary to take whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the City of Sweetwater; and,

Whereas, the effects of COVID -19 continue to require extraordinary and immediate actions by the City of Sweetwater in order to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare; and

Whereas, on March 9, 2020, Florida Governor Ron Desantis promulgated Executive Order 20-52 and declared a State of Emergency in Florida in response to COVID-19; and

Whereas, Executive Order 20-52, Section (4)(0)(1) provides that each municipality in the State of Florida is authorized to waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of the political subdivision by law pertaining to the taking of whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the public's health, safety, and welfare; and

Whereas, under the provisions of law and Sections 252.31 - 252.60, Florida Statutes, the City of Sweetwater declared on March 16, 2020 that a State of Local Emergency exists within the City of Sweetwater, Miami-Dade County, Florida in response to the Novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19"); and

Whereas, under §30-1 of the City Code of Ordinances, the Mayor is authorized to invoke such emergency powers and thereby "direct and coordinate the development of emergency management plans and programs in accordance with the policies and plans set by the federal, state and county emergency management agencies"; and,

Whereas, liquor stores have been permitted to stay open as retail establishments; and,

Whereas, liquor has historically been subject to regulation and licensing; and,

Whereas, permitting liquor after into the evening hours merely serves to prolong the exposure of the public to COVID-19 and provides no mitigating public good or virtue; and,

Whereas, beer and wine are still available for purchase at grocery stores; and,

Whereas, it is in the interests of the residents of Sweetwater that liquor stores limit their hours of

operation;

Now Therefore, by the authority granted me as Mayor of the City of Sweetwater under the current state of emergency, I hereby order:

1. Liquor stores in the City of Sweetwater may open for business only from the hours of 10AM to 6PM, Monday through Saturday and must remain closed all other hours and all-day Sunday.
2. Violation of this Order may be punished by a fine of not more than \$500.00 or by imprisonment in the county jail for a period not exceeding 60 days or by both such fine and imprisonment. Each day that any violation of this Code or ordinance shall continue shall constitute a separate offense. In addition to the foregoing penalties, any condition caused or permitted to exist in violation of any of the provisions of this Order or any applicable ordinance, resolution, rule, regulation or order shall be deemed a public nuisance and may be abated by the city as provided by law, and each day that such condition continues shall be regarded as a new and separate offense.

Done and Ordered on March 30, 2020 at 6PM.



Orlando Lopez
Mayor
City of Sweetwater