



**EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 14  
PALM BEACH COUNTY COVID-19  
RESTRICTION ON OPERATING HOURS OF RESTAURANTS,  
FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS, AND OTHER BUSINESSES**

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19, a respiratory illness caused by a virus that spreads rapidly from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, constitutes a clear and present threat to the lives, health, welfare, and safety of the people of Palm Beach County; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis, issued Executive Order 20-52 declaring a state of emergency for the State of Florida as a result of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, pursuant to Section 252.38(3)(a)(5), Florida Statutes, Palm Beach County declared a local State of Emergency due to the Coronavirus pandemic, which has since been extended in accordance with applicable law; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 24, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis also issued Executive Order 20-83 directing the State Surgeon General and the State Health Officer to issue a public health advisory for senior persons and persons that have a serious underlying medical condition that places them at a high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 to stay at home. Such conditions include, but are not limited to, chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma, serious heart conditions, immunocompromised status, including those in cancer treatment, and severe obesity; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Ron DeSantis has issued a number of subsequent Executive Orders in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including Executive Order 20-112, a Phase 1: Safe Smart Step-by-Step Plan for Florida's Recovery, under which the Governor re-opened certain businesses, and Executive Order 20-120 which, among other things, served to include Palm Beach County under Phase 1, and Executive Order 20-123, in which the Governor extended and brought all Florida counties into Full Phase 1; and

**WHEREAS**, Palm Beach County remains in Phase 1 in accordance with Executive Order 20-123 and Executive Order 20-139 issued by Governor DeSantis on June 3, 2020. The Phase 1 restrictions allow indoor seating in restaurants at 50% capacity with appropriate partitioning in place between parties. Outdoor seating and take-out service is permitted; however, bar counters remain closed to seating, and eating at bars within restaurants is not allowed. Bars and nightclubs remain closed in Palm Beach County; and

**WHEREAS**, Palm Beach County has experienced a sharp increase in the number of positive cases of COVID-19 in late May, June, and early July 2020 and the Board of County Commissioners determined that additional measures are needed to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and the County Administrator on June 24, 2020 issued an additional order mandating the wearing of facial coverings in all businesses and establishments and in public spaces where social distancing is not possible; and

**WHEREAS**, there has been a significant increase in COVID-19 positivity among the general population with greater numbers of cases in the teen and young adult age categories; and

**WHEREAS**, large gatherings in restaurants where physical distancing is not being maintained is believed to contribute to the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the County has received complaints about large gatherings in restaurants; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 14, 2020, in consideration of the foregoing, the Palm Beach County Board of Commissioners directed the County Administrator to rescind the County's request to Governor Ron DeSantis for Palm Beach County to enter Phase 2: Safe Smart Step-by-Step Plan for Florida's Recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 14, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners discussed, and the County Administrator determined, that it is appropriate and necessary to limit the hours that restaurants and food establishments may serve food and alcohol for on-premises consumption; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 14, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners also discussed, and the County Administrator also determined, that it is additionally appropriate and necessary to limit the hours of amusement parks, hookah and smoking bars and lounges, kava, kratom and similar bars and lounges, banquet halls, and ballrooms.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** pursuant to Palm Beach County Code Chapter 9, Article II, Section 9-35, as well as the authorities granted to me by Declaration of Emergency issued by Governor DeSantis in Executive Order 20-52, by Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, by the Board of County Commissioners, by the Palm Beach County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, and as otherwise provided by law, I hereby order as follows:

1. **Recitals.** The foregoing recitals are hereby incorporated herein by reference.
2. **Applicability and Intent.** This Order applies in all incorporated and unincorporated areas of Palm Beach County. This Order is intended to limit the hours of operation for the activities and businesses identified herein. This Order is not intended to, nor shall it be construed to, authorize any business that is currently prohibited from operating to open. This Order also is not intended to, nor shall it be construed to, authorize any business that is operating in violation of applicable laws to continue such illegal operations, including, but not limited to, any operations in violation of any county or municipal zoning laws or emergency orders.

3. **Restriction of Hours for Alcohol and Food Service.** No establishment permitted to serve alcohol for on-site consumption, whether indoor or outdoor, shall serve alcohol between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. No establishment permitted to serve food for on-site consumption, whether indoor or outdoor, shall serve food between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. Nothing in this section prohibits delivery, drive-through, pick-up, or take-out services, for off-site consumption.
4. **Restriction of Operating Hours for Certain Businesses and Venues.** Notwithstanding the terms of Section 3, the following businesses and venues, to the extent they have been authorized to legally operate, shall be closed between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.: amusement parks; hookah and smoking bars and lounges; kava, kratom and similar bars and lounges; banquet halls; and ballrooms.
5. **Enforcement.** The Sheriff of Palm Beach County, other law enforcement agencies including municipal law enforcement agencies, and any other personnel authorized by law, including, but not limited to, the personnel described in Section 9-37 of the Palm Beach County Code of Ordinances, are authorized to enforce this Order as follows:
  - a. Pursuant to the authorities granted in Sections 252.46 and 252.47, Florida Statutes, the Sheriff of Palm Beach County and other law enforcement authorities of the State, and the political subdivisions thereof, shall enforce the orders and rules issued pursuant to Sections 252.31 through 252.90, Florida Statutes, including this Order. Any person violating any provision of Sections 252.31 through 252.90, Florida Statutes, or any rule or order made pursuant to the authority granted in Sections 252.31 through 252.90, Florida Statutes, is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in Sections 775.082 or 775.083, Florida Statutes;
  - b. The Sheriff of Palm Beach County, other law enforcement personnel, including municipal law enforcement agencies and any other personnel authorized by law, including, but not limited to, the personnel described in Section 9-37 of the Palm Beach County Code of Ordinances, may issue civil citations to enforce this Order. Written or verbal warnings and reasonable time periods to correct shall be provided before citations resulting in fines are issued. However, written or verbal warnings and opportunities to correct are not required if a repeat violation is found or if the code enforcement officer or other authorized enforcement personnel have reason to believe that the violation presents a serious threat to the public health, safety, or welfare, or if the violation is irreparable or irreversible. Authorized personnel may issue civil citations for fines as follows: individuals shall be fined twenty-five dollars (\$25) for the first violation, fifty dollars (\$50) for the second violation, and one-hundred dollars (\$100) for each additional violation; businesses shall be fined two-hundred-and-fifty dollars (\$250) for the first violation, three-hundred-and-fifty dollars (\$350) for the second violation, and five-hundred dollars (\$500) for each additional

violation. Each incident of a continuing violation shall be deemed a separate additional violation; and

c. Nothing herein is intended to nor shall limit any additional enforcement mechanisms otherwise authorized by law.

6. **Conflicts.** Any provision(s) within this Order that conflict(s) with any state or federal law or constitutional provision, or conflict(s) with, or are superseded by, a current or subsequently-issued Executive Order of the Governor or the President of the United States, shall be deemed inapplicable and deemed to be severed from this Order, with the remainder of the Order remaining intact and in full force and effect. To the extent application of some or all of the provisions of this Order is prohibited on the sovereign land of a federally or state recognized sovereign or Indian tribe, such application is expressly excluded from this Order. The provisions of this Order shall supersede the specific provisions of any previously issued County Emergency Order that is contrary to or in conflict with this Order.

7. **Effective Date.** This Order shall be effective as of 12:01 a.m. on July 16, 2020. This Order shall expire upon the expiration of the existing State of Local Emergency, as same may be extended by subsequent order or declaration, unless earlier terminated by subsequent order or Board of County Commissioners action.

**PALM BEACH COUNTY**

By: *Verdenia Baker*  
County Administrator

7/14/2020  
Date

**APPROVED AS TO  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY**

By: *[Signature]*  
County Attorney

**ATTEST  
CLERK & COMPTRROLLER**

By: *[Signature]*  
Deputy Clerk