

## **DECLARATION OF MEASURES FOR COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act LA R.S. 29:721 et seq., the Governor declared a Public Health Emergency in Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020 and additional measures in Proclamation Number JBE 2020-27 and in Proclamation JBE 2020-30; and

**WHEREAS**, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the effects of its extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout the United States and Louisiana significantly threatens the safety, health and security of the citizens of the state along with public facilities, including but not limited to schools, workplaces, nursing homes, hospitals, etc; and

**WHEREAS**, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic suggests aggressive measures for limiting the possible interaction of the public with individuals exposed to or infected with COVID-19, including limiting large public gatherings; and

**WHEREAS**, limitations in interactions between members of the public includes school age children who may be in a position to pass COVID-19 to vulnerable populations including the elderly or those with underlying medical conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, CDC guidance also encourages social distancing and prevention of unnecessary personal interactions; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals who are impacted by COVID-19 may not be able to report to work, they may need to be isolated or quarantined, they may have to care for a sick family member, care for a child whose school is closed or be forced to quit their jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition, COVID-19 may cause businesses to shut down due to a slow down or lack of demand, institute temporary or partial layoffs; and

**WHEREAS**, an individual's inability to report to work due to a COVID-19 diagnosis, an individual being isolated or quarantined, caring for a sick family member, caring for a child whose school is closed and the extraordinary volume

of resulting unemployment pose serious challenges to the effective administration of government in providing services as well as emergency response to the public; and

**WHEREAS**, since the declaration of the Public Health Emergency and the COVID-19 outbreak in Louisiana has expanded significantly, additional measures are necessary to protect the public health and safety relating to the ability of the COVID-19 virus to spread via personal interactions and because of physical contamination of property due to the propensity to attach to surfaces for long periods of time; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Crowley intends to proactively address the significant impact on the methods and ability to provide emergency response, essential public services and other needs of the citizens while at the same time addressing the impact and hardships upon City employees; and

**WHEREAS**, the Declaration by the Governor and the Acadia Parish President empowers local political subdivisions to take any and all actions authorized under Louisiana Emergency Health Powers Act LA R.S. 29:760 et seq. in relation to this Public Health Emergency;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Tim Monceaux, Mayor of the City of Crowley, by virtue of the authority to make said declarations, do hereby declare a state of emergency does exist within the City of Crowley and do hereby order and direct as follows:

**Section 1:** All Emergency Preparedness Disaster and Health Hazards Plans are hereby activated and all departments are to coordinate with the Acadia Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness as directed therein.

**Section 2:** In an effort to reduce and limit the spread of COVID-19 in Louisiana, and to preserve the health and safety of all members of the public, all gatherings of 50 people or more between 12:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 17, 2020 and Monday, April 13, 2020 shall be postponed or cancelled. This applies only to gatherings in a single space at the same time where individuals will be in close proximity to one another. It does not apply to normal operations at locations like airports, medical facilities, shopping centers or malls, office buildings, factories or manufacturing facilities, or grocery or department stores.

**Section 3:** Pursuant to LA R.S. 29:766 et seq., the Governor has determined that some business establishments are unable to continue current operations without unacceptable risks to the health and safety of the public. Therefore, at 12:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, all casinos, video poker establishments, movie theaters, bars, bowling alleys and fitness centers and gyms in the City of Crowley shall cease operations completely. Any truck stop may remain in operation but shall cease all gaming operations. Race tracks may remain open but no members of the public may be allowed therein and no gaming operations shall be allowed. These restrictions shall remain in place until 11:59 p.m. on April 12, 2020, unless terminated earlier.

**Section 4:** Pursuant to LA R.S. 29:766 et seq., the Governor has determined that some business establishments are unable to continue current operations without unacceptable risks to the health and safety of the public. Therefore, at 12:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, all restaurants, cafes and coffee shops in the City of Crowley shall cease allowing for any on premises consumption of food or beverages. Any establishments affected by this order may continue take out, drive-thru, and delivery services, however, in no circumstances shall the food or beverages purchased be consumed on premises. Hotel restaurants may continue operations but only for the service of registered hotel guests via room service. These restrictions shall remain in place until 11:59 p.m. on April 12, 2020, unless terminated earlier.

**Section 5:** All public schools in the City of Crowley shall close facilities to students until April 13, 2020. All schools providing meals or other essential services with applicable staff shall comply with appropriate social distancing measures.

**Section 6:** In order to reduce the contact with members of the public and to limit the personal interaction of individuals with City employees, governmental offices and facilities, Crowley City Hall and the Rice Festival Building are closed to the public until further notice. Business with the City of Crowley shall be conducted via telephone ((337) 783-0824), facsimile ((337) 783-3128), email and US Mail. A temporary mailbox will be placed near the front doors of City Hall. Online services are also provided through the City of Crowley's website, [www.crowley-la.gov](http://www.crowley-la.gov), for all communication and questions or to call the City of Crowley at (337) 783-0824 or may call the direct line to any

office of the City. In the event of an emergency, members of the public should call 911.

When dealing with members of the public, all City employees shall maintain appropriate social distancing measures and when necessary, utilize protective equipment.

**Section 7:** Pursuant to LA R.S. 29:732(A), prices charged or value received for goods and services sold may not exceed the prices ordinarily charged for comparable goods and services in the same market area at or immediately before the time of the state of emergency, unless the prices by the seller is attributable to fluctuations in applicable commodity markets, fluctuations in applicable regional or national market trends, or to reasonable expenses and charges and attendant business risk incurred in procuring or selling the goods or services during the state of emergency.

**Section 8:** Any organization licensed by the Louisiana Department of Revenue Office of Charitable Gaming to conduct games of chance pursuant to the Charitable Raffles, Bingo and Keno Licensing Law shall not be authorized to hold or conduct any sessions as defined in LA R.S. 4:740 for the period beginning Friday, March 13, 2020, and ending on Sunday, April 12, 2020.

**Section 9:** All City employees who intend to travel or have traveled to or have household members who intend to travel or have traveled to areas designated as Warning Level 2 or Level 3 or above by the CDC are hereby directed to notify their supervisor and the Human Resources Director, Julie Romero, of the travel as soon as possible, but in no event later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to their departure, to state the location of travel and the expected date of return and to notify their supervisor and the Human Resources Director immediately upon their return to the State of Louisiana.

**Section 10:** All City employees shall notify their supervisor and the Human Resources Director, Julie Romero, if the employee or a household member of the employee develops symptoms associated with COVID-19.

**Section 11:** The City of Crowley will follow the guidelines set for all State employees by the Civil Service Commission and the Division of Administration regarding quarantine and management of sick leave for all City employees affected by or exposed to COVID-19.

**Section 12:** The City of Crowley will comply with Section 4 of the Amended Order JBE 2020-30 regarding attendance at essential public meetings via teleconference or videoconference as may be necessary for quorums and other matters.

**Section 13:** Pursuant to LA R.S. 14:329.6, a state of emergency is declared to exist statewide for the purposes of allowing the City of Crowley Chief of Police, as the chief law enforcement officer to, in order to protect life and property and to bring the emergency situation under control, promulgate orders or any provision thereof, including a local curfew from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.

**Section 14:** All departments, commissions, boards, agencies and officers of the City of Crowley are authorized and directed to cooperate in any actions the State and Parish may take in response to the effects of this event.

**Section 15:** This state of emergency extends from Friday, March 13, 2020, to Thursday, April 9, 2020, unless terminated sooner.

**THUS ISSUED** effective the 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020, **DONE AND SIGNED** in the City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, Louisiana on this the \_\_\_\_ day of March, 2020.

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TIM MONCEAUX, Mayor

ATTESTED BY:

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ERIN S. CRADEUR, City Clerk