

**RESOLUTION DECLARING STATE OF EMERGENCY IN CHATHAM COUNTY,  
GEORGIA AND HEREIN ESTABLISHING EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE ORDERS  
TO CONTROL THE SPREAD OF COVID-19.**

**WHEREAS,** the President of the United States declared a National Public Health Emergency on Friday March 13, 2020; and,

**WHEREAS,** the Governor of the State of Georgia declared a State Emergency in Georgia on March 14, 2020; and,

**WHEREAS,** the World Health Organization has declared the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) a world health emergency and a pandemic; and,

**WHEREAS,** the Chatham County Emergency Management Ordinance grants to the Chairman the power to protect the safety, health, and welfare of the public during a declared state of emergency; and,

**WHEREAS,** I did so resolve on March 16, 2020 that certain measures of the Chatham County Emergency Management Ordinance be activated to assist in the implementation of Governor Kemp's declared Public Health State of Emergency and those ordinances remain in full force and effect with this declaration; and,

**WHEREAS,** the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have recommended that any gathering of over 10 people be discontinued or prohibited; and

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED** as follows:

**Section 1:** Effective March 22, 2020, a local state of emergency is declared throughout the entirety of Chatham County pursuant to Article 4 of the Chatham County Code and Chapter 3 of Title 38 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.

**Section 2:** All required resources of Chatham County and its municipalities shall be made available to assist in activities designed to address this emergency, control the spread of COVID-19 and aid in recovery efforts.

**Section 3:** The Chatham Emergency Management Agency shall activate the Chatham County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) in response to this emergency event.

**Section 4:** All indoor recreation, fitness and entertainment facilities are to close immediate and shall remain closed until such time as the state of emergency has been lifted or amended.

**Section 5:** Any person showing symptoms recognized by the CDC as indicators of COVID-19 shall refrain from entering public buildings, restaurants, shops, public transportation facilities and all other areas where the public ingresses or egresses. Such person should seek medical attention and follow the directions of their Primary Care Physician until given the clearance to return to public interaction.

**Section 6:** All eating establishments, bar and nightclubs within the County shall reduce indoor seating capacity and shall additionally ensure that such seating is sufficient to achieve 6 foot social distancing among those customers within the establishment. Restaurants bars, night clubs that cannot achieve the 6 foot social distancing are ordered to close. Restaurants capable of providing delivery, take-out or drive through services are encouraged to increase these services and avoid in-house dining as much as possible.

**Section 7:** Eating establishment regulations prohibited in Section 6 of this Resolution shall not include cafeterias located within medical, industrial, government or other such production facilities that are performing essential functions that are necessary to promote health, welfare and vital resources in Chatham County. These facilities are strongly encouraged to stagger meal times, limit use as much as feasible to achieve social distancing, and to thoroughly follow CDC protocols of cleaning.

**Section 8.** All houses of worship shall strive for density reduction in all services, whether scheduled or based upon a life event such as a funeral or baptism, and wherever practical shall practice social distancing. Houses of worship are further encouraged to use social media or other video outlets to broadcast worship services. Funeral homes shall likewise strive for density reduction in all activities and shall ensure vehicles used to transport families shall be thoroughly cleaned between uses in accordance with CDC guidelines. Graveside services of 10 or less participants are highly encouraged.

**Section 9.** Social distancing is the most effective manner of stopping the spread of this emergency. To the extent feasible, it is in the best interest of citizens of Chatham County to not gather in crowds of 10 or more in any location except in an authorized, official government capacity. It is further highly encouraged that all citizens of Chatham County limit travel outside of the County as much as possible.

**Section 10.** Chatham Area Transit (“CAT”) remains operational throughout Chatham County at this time. Citizens are encouraged to use public transit only when necessary to travel to and from work, and for shopping of essential items such as grocery stores and pharmacies.

**Section 11.** Punishment for the violation of this Declaration is outlined in Section 2 of the Chatham County Emergency Management Ordinance, Chapter 4, shall govern this ordinance.

It is further ordered that this Resolution shall remain in effect for not longer than April 22, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. or shall terminate in conjunction with the termination of the Governor’s State of Emergency, whichever occurs first.

**SO RESOLVED**, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2020.

  
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Albert J. Scott,  
Chairman of the Board of Commissioners

Attested to and approved as legal form:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Jonathan Hart', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

R. Jonathan Hart  
County Attorney