



HANCOCK COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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Brian T. Adam,
Director

John A. Evans,
Deputy Director

JOINT PRESS RELEASE OF HANCOCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, and the CITIES OF BAY SAINT LOUIS, DIAMONDHEAD AND WAVELAND

March 21, 2020

On this date, Hancock County Board of Supervisors, and the Cities of Bay Saint Louis, Diamondhead and Waveland each adopted the following orders restricting access to their public facilities, prohibiting gatherings of more than ten people, limiting gatherings of ten people or less, and making restaurants and bars open only for pick up food delivery within Hancock County's unincorporated areas, the City of Bay Saint Louis and the City of Diamondhead effective at 8:00 p.m. today, and effective at 11:59 p.m. in the City of Waveland.

By those orders and beginning at those respective times:

(1) all public entrances to all public buildings and facilities shall be, and hereby are, temporarily closed and shall not re-open until further notice or expiration of the ongoing State of Emergency related to this pandemic issued by the local governments, whichever shall occur first, with the understanding that the public can still contact and perform business with the public officials, departments and employees through non-face-to-face contact via the telephone, e-mail, drive thru service (where available), and written communications (regular U.S. Mail, etc.) during this period of time.

(2) (a) all events of more than ten (10) people are hereby temporarily prohibited; and (b) all events of ten (10) people or fewer are limited, as provided herein:

- 1. An event, for purposes of this Proclamation, is defined to be “an organized, orchestrated or sponsored gathering that people are invited to attend or encouraged to attend through advertising or membership.” Further, an event is “a gathering for business, social, or recreational activity, including, but not limited to, community, civic, public, leisure, or sporting event; parades; concerts; festivals; funerals; conventions; fundraisers, large private parties, celebrations, or banquets; and artistic performances and spiritual and faith-based gatherings.”**
- 2. An event, for purposes of this Proclamation, is not a public location where people pass through, such as transportation centers, airports, public squares, and shopping areas, Retail establishments such as grocery stores, gas stations, pharmacies, and banks are not events. Medical facilities, office environments, factories, schools, universities, and public-owned or leased buildings where essential functions and services are being carried out are not events.**



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3. Organizers of events of ten (10) people or fewer must ensure that:

- (a) Older adults, specifically senior citizens, and individuals with underlying medical conditions that are at increased risk of serious COVID-19 are encouraged not to attend.
- (b) Social distancing recommendations, as prescribed by the Mississippi State Department of Health, must be met.
- (c) Proper hygiene and sanitation must be readily available to all attendees and individuals involved as per the recommendations of the MDOH and or CDC.
- (d) Environmental cleaning guidelines from the CDC are followed.

(3) all restaurants, whether with or without drive-in or drive-through services, may only provide take-out, pick-up, delivery, or drive-through services as allowed by law. There shall be no in-house dining, on-site or available sitting areas for the public. Any onsite dining is prohibited. Furthermore, there shall be no formation of lines of ten (10) or more people conjugating to pick-up food.

(4) all bars, nightclubs, lounges, taverns, and private clubs shall close, except to the extent that such establishments may only provide take out, pick-up, delivery, or drive-through services for food as allowed by law.

(5) to the extent allowed by state and federal law and the United States Constitution, this Proclamation prohibiting and limiting events is applicable to spiritual and faith-based gatherings.

Violations of these orders may be subject to misdemeanor prosecution pursuant to State Law, including, but not limited to, Miss. Code Ann. § 45-17-9, as amended, as well as punishable as otherwise allowed by law, including without limitation under the ordinances of the entities.

Published by order of the above listed governmental authorities.

Thank you;

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brian T. Adam'.

Brian T. Adam
EMA Director