



EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION OF ORDER OF THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF YAZOO CITY, MISSISSIPPI, PROHIBITING GATHERINGS OF MORE THAN 10 PEOPLE, LIMITING GATHERINGS OF 10 PEOPLE OR FEWER, CLOSING BARS AND LIMITING ACCESS TO RESTAURANTS IN THE CITY OF YAZOO CITY, MISSISSIPPI, AS A RESULT OF COVID-19 AND THE CITY OF YAZOO CITY'S STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, there are confirmed cases of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, in Mississippi as confirmed by the State Department of Health; and

WHEREAS, the State Health Officer has reported that there is a high risk for an outbreak in the State of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi State Department of Health has confirmed localized person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in Mississippi, significantly increasing the risk of exposure and infection to Mississippi's general public and creating an extreme public health risk; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States of America has declared a nationwide state of emergency, the Governor of the State of Mississippi has declared that a state of emergency exists in the State of Mississippi as a result of COVID-19, and the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Yazoo City, Mississippi, has in accordance with Section 33-15-17(d), Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, declared a local state of emergency as a result of the pandemic created by the novel coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Yazoo City, Mississippi, hereby find that conditions of extreme peril to the health and safety of persons within the City of Yazoo City, Mississippi, have arisen as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, government authorities all over the globe are taking extraordinary measures to protect their citizens and flatten the growth curve of cases, including by limiting non-essential, personal contact; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 as reported by the Mississippi State Department of Health has been confirmed within Yazoo County, Mississippi, further creating conditions of extreme peril that may result in substantial injury or harm to life, health, and property, within the City of Yazoo City, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi State Department of Health has advised that citizens practice social distancing, and on March 16, 2020, the President of the United States of America recommended avoiding gatherings of more than 10 people; and

WHEREAS, extraordinary measures related to decreasing the spread of COVID-19 are necessary, unavoidable, and in the best interest of the citizens of the City of Yazoo City,

Mississippi, to maintain the life, property, health, safety, welfare, good order, and public peace, of citizens and the City of Yazoo City, Mississippi.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that in accordance with the declaration of emergency pursuant to Section 33-15-17(d), Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, in accordance with the authority granted pursuant to Section 45-17-1, *et seq.*, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, and in accordance with the Charter and Ordinances of the City of Yazoo City, Mississippi, and the authority of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of this special charter municipality, the Board of Mayor and Alderman of the City of Yazoo City, Mississippi, hereby issues this emergency Order Prohibiting Gatherings of More than 10 People, Limiting Gatherings of 10 People or Fewer, Closing Bars and Limiting Access to Restaurants in the City of Yazoo City, Mississippi.

IT IS ORDERED that (1) all events of more than 10 people in the City of Yazoo City, Mississippi, are hereby prohibited; and (2) all events of 10 people or fewer in the City of Yazoo City, Mississippi, are limited, as provided herein.

- a. An event is an organized, orchestrated or sponsored gathering that people are invited to attend or encouraged to attend through advertising. Further, an event is a gathering for business, social, or recreational activities including, but not limited to, community, civic, public, leisure, or sporting events; parades; concerts; festivals; conventions; fundraisers, large private parties, celebrations or banquets; artistic performances, and spiritual and faith-based gatherings.
- b. An event 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 City owned or leased buildings where essential functions and services are being carried out are not events.
- c. Organizers of events of 10 people or fewer must ensure that:
 - Older adults and individuals with underlying medical conditions that are at increased risk of serious COVID-19 are encouraged not to attend.
 - Social distancing recommendations, as prescribed by the Mississippi State Department of Health, must be met.
 - Proper hand hygiene and sanitation must be readily available to all attendees and individuals involved.

- Environmental cleaning guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are followed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all restaurants located in the City of Yazoo City, Mississippi, 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 or available sitting areas for the public.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all bars, nightclubs, lounges, taverns, event centers and private clubs located in the City of Yazoo City, Mississippi, 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.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that only to the extent allowed by state and federal law and the United States Constitution, this Emergency Proclamation of Order *prohibiting* and *limiting* events is applicable to spiritual and faith-based gatherings.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Emergency Proclamation of Order be (1) promptly filed with the City Clerk; (2) distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; and (3) distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this Emergency Proclamation of Order.

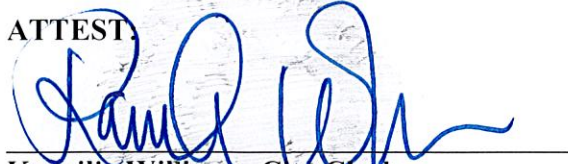
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that violations of this Emergency Proclamation of Order may be subject to misdemeanor prosecution pursuant to Section 45-17-9 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended.

IT IS FINALLY ORDERED that this Emergency Proclamation of Order is effective Thursday, March 19, 2020, at 10:00 p.m., and shall remain in effect through April 1, 2020, or until rescinded or superseded by another applicable Emergency Proclamation of Order by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Yazoo City, Mississippi.

AS APPROVED AND ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF YAZOO CITY, MISSISSIPPI, THIS 19th DAY OF MARCH, 2020.


DIANE DELAWARE, MAYOR

ATTEST:


Kancilia Williams, City Clerk