



## ***Baldwin County Board of Commissioners***

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*Vice Chair*  
Tommy L. French, District 2

*Commissioners*  
Emily C. Davis, District 1  
Sammy Hall, District 3  
John H. Westmoreland, District 5

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

At 1:00 P.M. Sunday, March 22, 2020, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners declared a state of emergency in Baldwin County due to confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus. This action was taken with the support of the Baldwin County Board of Health in coordination with the City of Milledgeville. We feel this will help protect the citizens of our County by reducing the spread of COVID-19.

The declaration includes provisions that prevent social gatherings of 10 or more people which includes gatherings such as church services, funerals, family reunions and political gatherings along with a curfew that will be imposed on non-essential travel from the hours of 10:00 P.M. to 6:00 A.M. While not prohibited at this time, Baldwin County (and the City of Milledgeville) strongly recommends that dining in restaurants where 10 or more diners are seated should be avoided.

This does not prevent businesses from operating with 10 or more employees.

Work related travel along with emergency situations are exempted from this declaration. The Baldwin County Sheriff's Department and the Milledgeville Police Department will enforce the provisions of this emergency declaration.

We ask that all citizens of Baldwin County abide by this declaration,

## "DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY"

WHEREAS, in December 2019 a novel corona virus, COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Outcomes have ranged from mild to severe illness, and in some cases death; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency pursuant to section 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 68, sections 5121-5207), known as the "Stafford Act," which provides legal authority for the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide assistance to states during declared major disasters and emergencies; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, due to the impact of COVID-19 on the State of Georgia, Governor Kemp issued Executive Order 03.14.20.01, declaring a Public Health State of Emergency in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has identified the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States, and has advised that the person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has noted that COVID-19 is proliferating via "community spread," meaning people have contracted the virus in areas of Georgia as a result of direct contact or indirect contact with infected persons, including some who are not sure how or where they became infected; and

WHEREAS, currently, as of March 21, 2020 there are two confirmed cases of COVID-19, that have been identified within Baldwin County, the threat to the health, safety and welfare of citizens does exist; and

WHEREAS, there currently exists in *Baldwin County, Georgia* the potential for a local disaster or emergency due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, there is a necessity for a prompt and efficient response to safeguard lives and continue the provisions of services during the local emergency; and

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners and the Baldwin County Board of Health, and with advice from the Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency, there exist emergency circumstances within *Baldwin County, Georgia* requiring extraordinary and immediate corrective actions for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Baldwin County; and

WHEREAS, to prevent or minimize illness or injury to people and damage to property resulting from this event, certain actions are required.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me by local and state law.

IT IS HEREBY DECLARED that a local state of emergency exists and shall continue until the conditions requiring this declaration are abated.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency activate the Emergency Operation Plan.
2. That the following sections of the Baldwin County Code be implemented.

Section 4 Authority to Waive Procedures and Fee Structure

Section 5 Registration of Buildings and Repair Services (to be effective only if the Governor Declares a State of Emergency).

Section 6 Closed and Restricted Areas and Curfews.

Section 2 Emergency Management and Response Powers.

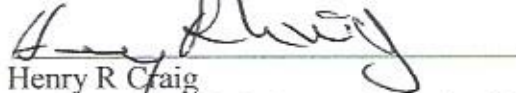
BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that a daily curfew is hereby established beginning Monday, March 23, 2020 restricting travel from 10 p. m. until 6:00 a.m. with the exception of persons traveling to and from work and for healthcare; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that all social gatherings of groups of 10 or more people be hereby prohibited beginning Monday, March 23, 2020 at 12:00 a.m.; and While not prohibited at this time, the Baldwin County (and the City of Milledgeville) strongly recommends that dining in restaurants where 10 or more diners are seated should best be avoided.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED AND IMPOSED that during the curfew, the following persons are exempted and free to travel to carry out their duties: police officers, firefighters, active duty military, health care providers, and public works and utility workers employed by any public utility, any municipality or local Government, the State of Georgia and the United States of America. Additionally, exemptions are granted to persons traveling to and from work or a medical facility, traveling through Baldwin County to a destination inside or outside the County and making deliveries within Baldwin County to insure continued commerce, Citizens seeking to restore order to their homes or businesses while on their own property or place of business; Other authorized and essential persons as designated on a list compiled by EMA and/or the Sheriff of the county,

ENTERED at

1:00 PM MAR 22, 2020



Henry R Craig

Chairman, Baldwin County Board of Commissioners