

**ORDER OF THE STATE HEALTH OFFICER  
SUSPENDING CERTAIN PUBLIC GATHERINGS  
DUE TO RISK OF INFECTION BY COVID-19**

**(APPLICABLE STATEWIDE)**

**AMENDED APRIL 3, 2020**

**WHEREAS** Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has been detected in Alabama; and

**WHEREAS** the appearance of COVID-19 in the State poses the potential of widespread exposure to an infectious agent that poses significant risk of substantial harm to a large number of people; and

**WHEREAS** the State Board of Health has designated COVID-19 to be a disease of epidemic potential, a threat to the health and welfare of the public, or otherwise of public health importance; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, on recommendation of the State Health Officer, Kay Ivey, Governor of the State of Alabama, declared a state public health emergency exists in the State of Alabama; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, the Jefferson County Health Officer, in response to a rapidly growing number of cases of COVID-19 being detected in Jefferson County, issued an order suspending certain public gatherings in that county; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, the State Health Officer issued a similar order for counties surrounding Jefferson, including Blount, St. Clair, Shelby, Tuscaloosa, and Walker Counties, and

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020, the State Health Officer issued an order, and on March 20, 2020, and March 27, 2020, amended orders, of statewide application suspending certain public gatherings; and

**WHEREAS** further social distancing measures are necessary to be implemented on a statewide basis to prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS** Ala. Code § 22-2-2(4) authorizes the State Health Officer, on behalf of the State Board of Health, to direct that conditions prejudicial to health in public places within the State be abated;

**NOW THEREFORE, THESE PREMISES CONSIDERED**, it is ordered that the following Stay at Home order be implemented statewide:

1. Effective Saturday, April 4, 2020, at 5:00 P.M., every person is ordered to stay at his or her place of residence except as necessary to perform any of the following “essential activities”:

and fertilizer producers and distributors, forest products businesses, including those involved in forestry operations, logging, manufacture of lumber and paper products; meat processing facilities, rendering facilities and transporters, feed processing facilities, veterinary services;

- f. **Essential retailers**, defined as all supermarkets, food and beverage stores, including liquor stores and warehouse clubs, food providers, convenience stores, office-supply stores, bookstores, computer stores, pharmacies, health care supply stores, hardware stores, home improvement stores, building materials stores, stores that sell electrical, plumbing, and heating materials, gun stores, gas stations; auto, farm equipment, bicycle, motorcycle, and boat supply and repair stores, and businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, and goods directly to residences;
- g. **Restaurants and bars**;
- h. **Essential personal services**, defined as trash collection, mail and shipping services, home repair, automotive sales and repair; warehouse, distribution and fulfillment centers, kennels, animal shelters, laundromats/laundry service, drycleaners, childcare facilities, public transportation, and providers of business services including security and payroll; funeral, cemetery, and related services;
- i. **Media operations**, including newspapers, digital news sites, television, radio and other media services;
- j. **Education operations**, including educators supporting public and private K-12 schools, colleges and universities or other educational institutions, for purposes of facilitating distance learning and education continuity plans approved by the State Superintendent of Education, performing critical research or other essential functions, including public schools preparing and transporting distance-learning materials and meals to eligible students and colleges providing lodging for students (all in compliance with paragraph 12 below);
- k. **Financial services**, including banks and related financial institutions, credit unions, payday lenders, businesses that process credit card and other financial transactions, and other services related to financial markets;
- l. **Professional Services**, including legal services, accounting services, insurance services, real estate services (including appraisal and title services);
- m. **Providers of basic necessities to economically disadvantaged populations** including businesses, religious and secular non-profit organizations, food banks, homeless shelters and congregate-care facilities;
- n. **Construction and construction-related services**, including building and construction, lumber, building materials and hardware businesses, electricians, plumbers, other construction tradesmen and tradeswomen, exterminators; cleaning and janitorial, HVACR and water heating businesses; painting, moving and relocating services, other