



**Telfair County
Board of Commissioners**

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State of Georgia
Telfair County

COVID-19 ORDER - 01

**2020 COVID-19 EMERGENCY ORDER
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TELFAIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSONERS DECLARING A
LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR TELFAIR COUNTY
EFFECTIVE MARCH 20TH, 2020**

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization announced that the corona virus disease 19 (COVID-19) outbreak can be categorized as a pandemic. As the rate of infection continues to rise in many locations around the world and across the United States; and,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 is a public health emergency effecting and threatening life, health, property, and public peace; and,

WHEREAS, on March 13th, 2020 President Donald Trump declared a national state of emergency due to the COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, on March the 14th 2020 pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-51 the Governor of Georgia declared a Statewide emergency in Georgia, describing COVID-19, and the corresponding pandemic, as a public health emergency; and,

WHEREAS, in the *judgment* of the Chairman of the Telfair County Board of Commissioners, with advice from the Telfair County Emergency Management Agency, there exist emergency circumstances located in the entirety of the juridical boundaries of Telfair County Georgia requiring extraordinary and immediate corrective actions for the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Telfair County and its municipalities; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant by the authority invested in me by the Telfair County Local Emergency Operations Plans and Ordinances and State Law; and,

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

THEREFORE, IT IS SO DECLARED:

1. That the local emergency, hereby declared, shall remain in effect until: (a) the expiration of 30 days; or (b) earlier rescission by the Chairman; or (c) extension by subsequent or amended declaration.

2. The following powers and/or restrictions are hereby instituted:

A. The Emergency Operation Plan. The Telfair County Emergency Operation Plan is hereby implemented pursuant to law.

B. Overcharging is prohibited. In order to preserve, protect, and sustain the life health welfare and safety of persons and their property during emergency disaster situations and subsequent recovery periods. It is unlawful during the duration of a

state of emergency, as defined in O.C.G.A § 38-3-3(7), or upon the determination by the Chair of the Telfair County Board of Commissioners of the existence of an emergency or disaster, or subsequent recovery period, for any person, firm, or corporation located or doing business in Telfair County to overcharge for housing or for any of the following goods materials, or services sold within the unincorporated areas of the county; food and nonalcoholic beverage items; nonprescription and prescription drugs; personal and residential hygiene items, including but not limited to soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, dish soap, laundry detergent, and deodorant; first aid items including but not limited to bandages and disinfectants; clothing; corrective eyewear; hearing aids; necessary items for disabled persons; office supplies; tools and building materials; gasoline; building construction, renovation, and repair services; automobile repair services; automotive towing services; engineering services; accounting services; legal services; and medical services.

C. **Law Enforcement.** In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 38-3-4, the Sheriff's Department shall be authorized to enforce the orders, rules and regulations contained herein as implemented by the Chair during this declared emergency.

D. **Penalties.** Failure to comply with any of the requirements or provisions of the regulations contained in this declared Emergency Order, or with any law, order, rule or regulation made effective by upon or after the declaration of an emergency shall constitute a violation of the provisions of this chapter. Any person who violates any provision in this chapter shall, upon conviction thereof, be punishable by a fine not exceeding \$1,000.00, or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months if the fine is not paid, for each violation. Each day during which a violation or failure to comply continues shall constitute a separate violation.

2. ***Strong encouragement/ Voluntary actions***

- It is strongly encouraged that citizens stay at home if possible and to remain at least 6 feet away from others in public;
- Businesses affected should try to establish systems that restrict in-person contact as much as possible;
- Gatherings of more than ten (10) people for nonessential purposes be barred;
- It is also highly encouraged that the citizens heed a Voluntary curfew from the hours of 10 PM to 6 AM;
- It is requested and strongly encouraged that all cities and municipalities within the boundaries of Telfair County comply with directives of the Telfair County Local Emergency Operations Plan, Ordinances and State Law.

3. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold, the Chair, with advice from the Emergency Management Agency, reserves the right to institute additional powers conferred by the Ordinance; should such become necessary.

4. This Declaration shall expire by operation of law on April 20, 2020, but may be extended or earlier terminated.

5. A copy of this Declaration shall be filed in the Office of the County Clerk and distributed to the municipalities and other agencies as required.

6. The County Clerk shall have the power to correct scrivener's errors.

SO DECLARED, this 20th day of March 2020


Chair