

HEALTH DIRECTOR OF JEFFERSON COUNTY ORDER NO. _____
JEFFERSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

&

COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. _____
JEFFERSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

1 **WHEREAS**, the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is a highly infectious and
2 dangerous disease that on March 11, 2020, was declared by the World Health Organization
3 to be a pandemic; and

4 **WHEREAS**, due to the COVID-19 pandemic there have been declarations of
5 emergency issued by the President of the United States and the Governor of the State of
6 Missouri; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the State of Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
8 (“DHSS”) issued a Public Health Warning on November 19, 2020, advising that the United
9 States is experiencing an extreme outbreak of COVID-19; and

10 **WHEREAS**, DHSS’ Public Warning advised that as people move from fall into
11 the winter months, respiratory illnesses spread more rapidly as people move indoors and
12 environmental conditions change; and

13 **WHEREAS**, DHSS is warning that if we do not slow the spread of the virus, we
14 risk having our health care systems overwhelmed by COVID-19 patients and that this poses
15 a significant risk not only to those suffering from COVID-19, but also to our first
16 responders, and those working in our healthcare systems, and to anyone requiring health

1 care support, including people requiring emergency services and ICU access from car
2 accidents, to treatments of serious health conditions, such as cancer; and

3 **WHEREAS**, due to extreme COVID-19 risks, the State of Missouri has issued its
4 Public Health Warning to set expectations for all individuals living and/or working in
5 Missouri and for local jurisdictions; and

6 **WHEREAS**, on November 19, 2020, Governor Parson issued Executive Order 20-
7 19, extending the state of emergency in Missouri through March 31, 2021, and issued
8 community-level guidance to all counties in the State of Missouri;

9 **WHEREAS**, the spread of COVID-19 will continue to grow at an exponential rate
10 for the foreseeable future, unless additional measures are implemented to reduce the spread
11 of the disease in Jefferson County, Missouri; and

12 **WHEREAS**, exponential spread of the disease has the potential to overwhelm the
13 community's medical resources; and

14 **WHEREAS**, due to the escalating spread of the COVID-19 pandemic it is
15 necessary for the immediate preservation of public health, safety and welfare of the
16 residents of Jefferson County to take steps to mitigate the spread of the disease; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the key transmission method for the COVID-19 virus is through
18 respiratory droplets that people expel when they breathe, speak, cough, or sneeze; and

19 **WHEREAS**, people can be infected with the COVID-19 virus and be
20 asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic but still be contagious to others; and

1 **WHEREAS**, numerous epidemiologists have found that widespread use of a face
2 mask is necessary to prevent the more rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus, and thereby
3 necessary for the safety and health of the County’s citizens, residents, and visitors; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has
5 recommended that members of the public, when they need to interact with others outside
6 the home, and especially in indoor settings, should cover the mouth and nose to prevent
7 inadvertently spreading COVID-19; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the wearing of a mask by patrons and employees to the greatest extent
9 possible, may allow businesses to remain open while protecting the health and safety of
10 the public and employees and keeping the local economy strong during the period in which
11 the disease is being brought under control in the community; and

12 **WHEREAS**, by the authority vested by and through The Constitution of the State
13 of Missouri, Sections 44.080 and 192.300 RSMo. (2020) et seq., 19 CSR 20-20.020; 19
14 20-20.050(1), and 19 CSR 20-20.010(24), and, the Charter of Jefferson County, Missouri,
15 the Board of the Jefferson County Health Center through the Health Director, along with
16 The County Executive, in making and promulgating orders, rules or regulations,
17 respectively as will tend to enhance the public health and prevent the entrance of infectious,
18 contagious, communicable or dangerous diseases into Jefferson County, Missouri, and
19 after advice of State and regional health officials and other regional leaders, hereby enter
20 this Joint Order; and

21

1 **WHEREAS**, after the promulgation and adoption of such orders, rules or
2 regulations by the Board of the Jefferson County Health Center through the Health Director
3 and the County Executive, those entities shall make and enter an Order or record declaring
4 such orders, rules or regulations to be printed and available for distribution to the public in
5 the Office of the County Clerk, and shall require a copy of such order to be published in
6 some newspaper in the County in three successive weeks, not later than thirty days after
7 the entry of such order, rule or regulation; and

8 **WHEREAS**, in response to the Public Health Warning issued by DHSS, the Board
9 of the Jefferson County Health Center and the County Executive find that wearing a Face
10 Mask is an appropriate and necessary method of reducing the spread of COVID-19, and
11 will be the least restrictive means imposed with the greatest benefit to reduce community
12 spread; and

13 **WHEREAS**, in response to the Public Health Warning, the Board of Jefferson
14 County Health Center has met and conferred with its Director and affirms that additional
15 actions by the Jefferson County Health Center are needed in order to combat the spread of
16 COVID-19 among the residents of Jefferson County, Missouri, such actions to include
17 those promulgated in this Joint Order.

18 **THEREFORE, IT IS AND SHALL HEREBY BE ORDERED**, that, the Health
19 Director of the Jefferson County Health Center and the County Executive of Jefferson
20 County, Missouri, make and reaffirm the findings set forth above and incorporate the same
21 by reference as if fully set forth herein; and

1 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED**, that, as used herein, a "Face Mask" means a
2 covering made of cloth, fabric, or other soft or permeable material, without holes, that
3 covers only the nose and mouth and surrounding areas of the lower face. A covering that
4 hides or obscures the wearer's eyes or forehead is not a Face Mask. A Face Mask may be
5 factory-made, or may be handmade and improvised from ordinary household materials.

6 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED**, that, any mask that incorporates a one-way valve
7 (typically a raised plastic cylinder about the size of a quarter on the front or side of the
8 mask) that is designed to facilitate easy exhaling allows droplets to be released from the
9 mask, putting others nearby at risk, and therefore these masks are not a Face Mask under
10 this Order and must not be used to comply with this Order's requirements.

11 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED**, that, except as otherwise provided in this Order all
12 persons age ten years old and above, who are present within the jurisdiction of Jefferson
13 County, Missouri, are required to wear a clean Face Mask any time they are, or will be, in
14 contact with other people in public indoor spaces, who are not household members.

15 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED**, that any time an employee or staff person is
16 required to wear a Face Mask pursuant to this Order, the employer shall make face masks
17 available in sufficient quantity to assure each employee can wear a clean Face Mask at all
18 times.

19 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that a person may remove their Face Mask where
20 otherwise required under the following circumstances:
21

1. While outdoors when able to maintain a distance of at least six feet from others;
2. While exercising outdoors, or while exercising indoors when able to maintain a distance of at least six feet from others;
3. When engaged in a sporting activity;
4. While at home; provided however, the wearing of a Face Mask shall be required in all common areas of any multifamily structure;
5. When in a vehicle;
6. While eating or drinking in the dining area of a restaurant, or other establishment, that offers food or beverage service, provided that person is able to maintain a distance of at least six feet from persons seated at other tables, and provided this distance restriction is enforced by the restaurant or other establishment;
7. When an individual has a medical condition, mental health condition or disability that prevents wearing a Face Mask;
8. When any party to a communication is deaf or hard of hearing and not wearing a Face Mask is essential to communication;
9. While obtaining a service that requires temporary removal of the Face Mask, such as dental examinations;
10. When necessary to confirm the individual's identity;
11. When federal or state law prohibits wearing a Face Mask or requires the removal of a Face Mask;

1 12. When requested by a law enforcement officer;

2 13. When requested by a medical provider, including emergency response
3 personnel;

4 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED**, that, should this mask requirement not result in the
5 decrease in number of positive COVID-19 patients within twenty-one (21) days of
6 implementation, further restrictions may be considered by the Board of the Jefferson
7 County Health Center and the County Executive, including, but not limited to, restricting
8 the number of participants in social gatherings, restricting access to restaurants and bars,
9 restricting the number of occupants in a retail establishment, and further measures
10 recommended by the Governor's Executive Order 20-19. In all other respects, the Board
11 of the Jefferson County Health Center and its Director, and the County Executive, urge
12 everyone to follow the Governor and/or DHSS' recommendations in their most recent
13 health directives, and further urge everyone to be vigilant on social distancing and good
14 hygiene.

15 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED**, that, if any provision, section or portion of this
16 Joint Order is found or determined by a court for any reason to be invalid or unenforceable,
17 those provisions shall be severed from the remaining portions of this Joint Order, which
18 shall remain effective in the absence of any invalid or unenforceable provisions.

19 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Joint Order shall be in effect from and after
20 **12:01 a.m. on November 27, 2020 and it shall remain in effect until 5:00 p.m. on**
21 **December 21, 2020.**

- 1 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED**, that, a copy of this Joint Order be provided to Ken
2 Waller, County Clerk, and that a copy of this order be printed in the Leader for three
3 successive weeks commencing immediately upon the adoption of this Order.

Director, Jefferson County Health Center

Date

County Executive, Jefferson County Missouri

Date