

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared COVID-19 (Coronavirus) to be a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has declared an infectious disease national emergency to combat COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, The Governor of the State of Oklahoma has declared an emergency caused by the impending threat of COVID-19 for all Oklahoma; and,

WHEREAS, the Pittsburg County Commissioners have declared an emergency from the potential effects of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued guidance for mass gatherings, community events, and public facilities; and,

WHEREAS, it is advised that communities limit public gatherings to crowds; and,

WHEREAS, at the time of this proclamation, there have been 17 confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the State of Oklahoma and 0 cases in Pittsburg County; and

WHEREAS, mitigation actions will help prevent the spread of the infection and protect the health and safety of the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE I, John Browne**, Mayor of the City of McAlester, Oklahoma, do hereby proclaim and declare:

- I. A state of emergency exists within the city limits of McAlester, Pittsburg County, Oklahoma.
- II. This proclamation shall become effective at 5:30 pm March 17, 2020.
- III. The public facilities of the City of McAlester are closed and all programming and events shall be postponed or canceled until after April 5, 2020.
- IV. All in-person gatherings for social, spiritual, and recreational purposes, including but not limited to community, civic, public, leisure, faith-based, or sporting events; parades, concerts, festivals, conventions, fundraisers and similar activities are strongly discouraged until after April 5, 2020.
- V. Local restaurants, bars, businesses, and privately-owned gathering places are highly recommended to ensure at least six (6) feet of space for each patron, per CDC recommendations, until after April 5, 2020.
- VI. Residents and visitors are encouraged to continue to support local restaurants and other privately-owned businesses with an emphasis on take-out or delivery options when available.
- VII. All residents are strongly urged to follow recommended protocols if exhibiting certain symptoms indicative of COVID-19.
- VIII. Patrons of public spaces and parks are highly encouraged to use discretion in all parts of the park facility playgrounds and open spaces when crowded conditions exist.

IX. This state of emergency shall continue until 12:01 am on April 5, 2020 or until terminated earlier or extended later by further proclamation.

In the City of McAlester.

Signed this 11 day of March, 2020.

John Browne, Mayor

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Cora Middleton, City Clerk