PROCLAMATION DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY IN LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA PROCLAMATION 2020-02 CURFEW RELATED TO CIVIL UNREST

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida (the "Board") has adopted the Emergency Management Ordinance, being codified in Chapter 2, Article VIII of the Code of Laws of Leon County, Florida (the "Ordinance"), providing authorization for the Board or its designee to declare a local State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on May 30, 2020, hundreds of local protestors participated in a National Day of Protest, to voice their views about the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis; and

WHEREAS, while the protest was mostly peaceful, some of the protestors damaged private businesses in the downtown Tallahassee area and otherwise damaged government property in a manner that is not consistent with the intent of the National Day of Protest event; and

WHEREAS, on May 30, 2020, as a result of additional threats of damage to businesses posted on social media sites, and social media being used to incite additional and continuing damage and criminal activity, including violence against officers and police property, a curfew was established for two days to protect the public health, safety, and welfare at the request of local law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, criminal activity has occurred during curfew hours and after the curfew ended that constitute a danger to the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement intelligence indicates that additional criminal activity is planned, and information to engage in criminal activity is being communicated using technological means; and

WHEREAS, violence and criminal activity has occurred in other communities around the country that has required the imposition of curfews; and

WHEREAS, the criminal acts that have been threatened to occur locally may result in substantial injury or harm to the population or substantial damage to or loss of property; and

WHEREAS, these occurrences and threat of continued occurrences pose a threat to the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, in order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, local law enforcement has requested the establishment of a new curfew; and

WHEREAS, an Emergency as defined in the Ordinance exists in Leon County; and

WHEREAS, prompt and efficient action is necessary to safeguard lives and property affected by the Emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT to the authority conferred by Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and the Ordinance, as Chairman of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners, and pursuant to Section 2-306 of the Code of Laws of Leon County, after consultation with local authorities, I find as follows:

1. <u>State of Emergency</u>. A local State of Emergency exists requiring immediate and expeditious action as a result of the destruction of property and continued threat of destruction of property and criminal activity within Leon County, and will continue to exist for a period of six days, effective 11:00 p.m. on June 2, 2020, in accordance with Section 2-307 of the Code of Laws of Leon County.

2. <u>Curfew</u>.

- (a) In order to protect the public health, safety and welfare, a curfew is established in all of Leon County, Florida, from the hours of 11:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m., commencing on June 2, 2020.
- (b) The curfew applies to all pedestrian and vehicular movement, standing and parking, except for: individuals participating in, going to, or returning from employment, including, but not limited to, federal, state, and local government employees, judicial personnel, those providing hospital and other health care services, first responder and correctional personnel, child protection and child welfare personnel, housing and shelter personnel, veterinary services personnel, postal and shipping services personnel, airline and airport personnel, and those performing utility and telecommunications repairs. Medical patients in need of transport, persons seeking medical care, and persons seeking emergency veterinary services for a pet animal are also excluded from the curfew. The curfew does not prohibit a person from walking a pet animal on the premises of the residence at which the animal is being maintained.
- (c) Refusal to comply with the curfew shall be punishable in accordance with Section 1-9, of the Code of Laws of Leon County, Florida.

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THIS PROCLAMATION authorizes the activation of the Leon County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and the exercise of all powers provided by Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 2, Article VIII of the Code of Laws of Leon County, Florida.

Dated this 2nd day of June, 2020.



LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

By:

Bryan Desloge, Chairman Board of County Commissioners

ATTESTED BY:

Gwendolyn Marshall, Clerk of Court

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APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Leon County Attorney's Office

By:

Chasity H. O'Steen County Attorney