

**ORDER OF THE
GREENE COUNTY COMMISSION
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI**

DATE ISSUED: March 17, 2020

SUBJECT: **Amendment of Declaration of State of Emergency Due to Coronavirus
Order Number POL-20.3.16**

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020 the County Commission passed an Order of the Greene County Commission POL-20.3.16, prohibiting public gatherings of 50 or more persons with certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, the Greene County Commission on this 17th day of March 2020, at a meeting duly called, noticed, and held, considers the matter of declaring a public health emergency to address the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the Governor of Missouri declared a state of emergency exists in the State of Missouri to address the COVID-19 to prevent a substantial risk to public health and safety and on March 15, 2020 the Center for Disease Control and the Governor recommended the cancellation or suspension of public events with more than 50 people; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the President of the United States and the Center for Disease Control issued guidelines encouraging the public to avoid social gatherings in groups of more than ten (10) people; and,

WHEREAS, the Director of the Springfield-Greene County Health Department has advised the Greene County Commission that there have been confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Greene County; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 can result in mild or severe symptoms with the elderly population and those with serious underlying health conditions being most at risk from COVID-19, which in some cases may be fatal; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is highly contagious, and is spread through close contact between persons and respiratory transmission and poses a serious health risk for Greene County residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, any large gathering of persons may accelerate the spread of infection in Greene County, Missouri and pose a risk to the health of our community; and

WHEREAS, the continued spread of COVID-19 constitutes a natural calamity and presents an imminent threat of wide-spread illness, which requires emergency action; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 192.300 RSMo. and CSR 20-20.050(3), the Greene County Commission is authorized to promulgate orders intended to enhance the public health and prevent the entrance of infectious, contagious, communicable, or dangerous diseases, such as COVID-19, into the County, including, among other things, a declaration that a state of emergency exists in Greene County, Missouri, and the exercise of all emergency powers not otherwise in conflict with any rules or regulations authorized by the Department of Health or the Department of Social Services under Chapter 198, RSMo.

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion duly made and seconded, the question was called and Commissioner Bengsch voted "YES", Commissioner Russell voted "YES", and Presiding Commissioner Dixon voted "YES", to adopt an Order declaring a state of emergency in the unincorporated areas of Greene County effective March 17, 2020 to control the spread of COVID-19 to protect the safety and welfare of the citizens of Greene County, Missouri.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that due to the unique characteristics and the risks associated with the transmission dynamics of COVID-19, the clinical severity of COVID-19, the lack of vaccine or antivirals as treatment options, the inability to ensure social distancing and to prevent close contact among professional, social, cultural, entertainment, or other special events where people are not separated by physical space of at least six (6) feet, it is hereby declared unlawful for any person to organize or attend an intentional gathering of ten (10) people or more in a single space or room. All group events or gatherings of 10 people or more in Greene County, Missouri are prohibited from taking place during the duration of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any person who organizes a gathering of nine (9) people or less shall take appropriate action to minimize risk to the greatest extent possible by implementing and enforcing mitigation measures, including but not limited to, social distancing, limiting the time period of gatherings, frequent cleaning of all surfaces, and posting of signs. This Order shall not apply to educational institutions, daycare facilities, places of employment, grocery stores, retail stores, or any activity a Court of competent jurisdiction holds cannot constitutionally be closed in these specific circumstances.

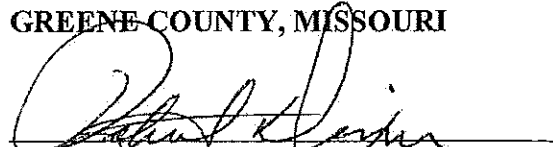
This Order shall not apply within the city limits of any city municipality within in Greene County, Missouri whose Mayor has issued a similar proclamation, resolution, or ordinance addressing the same emergency situation.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Springfield-Greene County Health Department may promulgate such mandatory or advisory rules, policies, and guidance as is necessary and appropriate to implement this Order. Mandatory rules and policies so promulgated shall have the force of law to the greatest extent permitted by Federal, State, and County law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED this state of emergency shall be effective at 5:00 p.m. on March 17, 2020 and shall expire only upon further Order declaring the emergency no longer exists. A copy of this Order shall be filed in the office of the Greene County Clerk before 5:00 p.m. this date and copies of said order shall be printed and available for distribution to the public in the Office of the County Clerk.

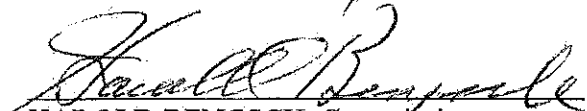
ADOPTED BY THE GREENE COUNTY COMMISSION this 17 day of March 2020
at 3:45 o'clock PM.

GREENE COUNTY, MISSOURI


ROBERT DIXON, Presiding Commissioner

Y

3.17.2020
Dated


HAROLD BENGSCHE, Commissioner
1st District

Y

3-17-2020
Dated

Via telephone per CAO, OISESMO
JOHN C. RUSSELL, Commissioner
2nd District

Y

3.17.2020
Dated

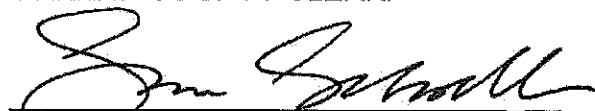
ATTEST:

County Clerk Certification

I certify that I am the County Clerk of Greene County, Missouri; that the foregoing document is a true, complete, and correct Order adopted by the Greene County Commission, Missouri on March 16, 2020, as the same appears in the official records of the County, and the Order has not been modified, amended, or repealed, and is in full force and effect on the date hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed the Certificate and affixed the seal of the County of Greene, Missouri this 17 day of March 2020.

GREENE COUNTY CLERK:


SHANE SCHOELLER
Greene County Clerk