

1 PROCLAMATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY
2 FOR THE COUNTY OF SONOMA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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4 **WHEREAS**, California Government Code section 8630 and the Sonoma County Code
5 section 10.5, empower the Board of Supervisors to proclaim the existence of a local emergency when
6 Sonoma County is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the County of Sonoma Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Article 1(b)
8 empowers the Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence of a Local Emergency when the
9 Sonoma County Board of Supervisors is not in session, and

10 **WHEREAS**, the Director of Emergency Services finds:

11 (1) That at the time of this proclamation the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors is not
12 in session;

13 (2) The United States of America has confirmed cases of individuals who have a severe
14 acute respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus (“COVID-19” or “the virus”) first detected in
15 Wuhan, Hubei Province, People’s Republic of China (“China”). The virus was first reported in China on
16 December 31, 2019. As of March 2, 2020, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) has reported more
17 than 3,000 deaths stemming from approximately 89,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and the virus is
18 present in 67 countries. The number of confirmed cases has continued to escalate dramatically over a short
19 period of time; and

20 (3) WHO officials now report that sustained human-to-human transmission of the virus
21 is occurring. Transmission from asymptomatic individuals has been documented. Suspected community
22 transmission of the virus is occurring in the United States. Although the majority of individuals infected
23 with COVID-19 recover from the disease without special treatment, there is significant potential for serious
24 infection and death; and

25 (4) On January 30, 2020, WHO declared the COVID-19 outbreak a public health
26 emergency of international concern, and on January 31, 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human
27 Services declared a Public Health Emergency for the United States of America; and
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1 (5) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) has determined that the
2 virus presents a serious public health threat, requiring coordination among state and local health
3 departments to ensure readiness for potential heal threats associated with the virus; and

4 (6) The CDC has issued guidelines to local and state health departments, including the
5 County of Sonoma’s Department of Health Services (“DHS”), concerning risk assessment and public health
6 management of persons with potential exposure to COVID-19. These guidelines require DHS to make
7 extraordinary efforts to monitor ongoing communicable disease threats and prepare for management of
8 individuals who may have been exposed to COVID-19; and

9 (7) DHS, the Department of Emergency Management, and other County partners have
10 been working diligently and successfully to implement the CDC guidelines, but now require additional tools
11 and resources to protect the public health given the current state of the epidemic and the need for a sustained
12 response; and

13 (8) The County’s Public Health Officer has found that the conditions constituting a threat
14 to community health, including a presumptive case of community infection, may be present in the County
15 warranting a proclamation of a Local Health Emergency; and

16 (9) The County’s Public Health Officer has determined that DHS cannot implement with
17 CDC’s guidance without immediate action beyond the County’s ordinary response capabilities, including
18 directing personnel and resources from other County departments to assist with the ongoing and developing
19 threat of COVID-19; and

20 (10) That conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen
21 within the County caused by the threat of COVID-19 that will impact significant County and community
22 operations, including critical public infrastructure and services, and which will require the provision of
23 additional public safety and emergency services; and

24 (11) That the aforesaid conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate the
25 proclamation of a Local Emergency to enable the County of Sonoma and other local government entities to
26 adequately plan, prepare and preposition resources to be able to effectively respond to the threat posed by
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COVID-19, and to warn Sonoma County residents and visitors of the threat posed by COVID-19 and to enable them sufficient time to plan and prepare; now, therefore,

IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a Local Emergency exists throughout Sonoma County, commencing on or about 10:00 a.m. of the 2nd day of March, 2020; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said Local Emergency, the powers, functions and duties of the Director of Emergency Services shall be those prescribed by state law and the ordinances, resolutions, and approved plan of the County of Sonoma in order to mitigate the effects of said Local Emergency; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that said Local Emergency shall be deemed to continue to exist for the next seven (7) days, and hereafter by ratification of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, until its termination is proclaimed by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED all County officers and employees take all steps requested by the Public Health Officer and/or the Director of Emergency Services to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to prevent or alleviate illness or death due to the virus; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED all County officers and employees take all steps requested by the Public Health Officer and/or the Director of Emergency Services to qualify the County for reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and for other state and federal relief as may be available to reimburse the County for the expenses it incurs in addressing this emergency; and

IT IS REQUESTED that the Governor of the State of California proclaim a State of Emergency due to the threat posed by COVID-19 in the State of California; include the County of Sonoma in any emergency declaration by the State; ensure the County of Sonoma is included in any emergency declaration that may be issued by the President of the United States of America; waive regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts; and make available California Disaster Assistance Act and State Private Nonprofit Organizations Assistance Program funding.

Dated: _____

Director of Emergency Services