

**PROCLAMATION BY MAYOR DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF SOUTHPORT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 6 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES**

THAT WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in death or serious illness to persons affected thereby, including citizens and residents of the City of Southport; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern and a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") has determined that COVID-19 is a public health threat globally and specifically in the United States and that travel restrictions should be implemented and mass gatherings be prohibited; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary has declared a public health emergency in the United States for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of North Carolina declared a State of Emergency on March 10, 2020, in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has declared that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, declaring a state of emergency and imposing the restrictions and prohibitions ordered herein is necessary to maintain and protect the public health;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joseph P. Hatem, Mayor of the City of Southport, do hereby declare and proclaim a State of Emergency within the entire jurisdiction of the City of Southport.

FURTHERMORE, in response to said Proclamation, the following restrictions and prohibitions are hereby imposed within the City of Southport:

1. Access to Public Facilities- Access to all public facilities is restricted to essential staff only. All public interaction shall be limited to the protocols adopted by the Board of Aldermen on March 19, 2020.
2. Public Gatherings- Public gatherings in all public parks and the waterfront, are limited to no more than 10 persons at all times with the required social distancing of 6 feet. All For-Hire Tours are to cease until further notice.

3. Discontinuance of Short Term Rentals—All rental agencies and property owners that rent properties within the City of Southport are instructed to have all current renters, who rent for a period of less than 3 months duration, and their invitees, vacate the premises and leave the City of Southport no later than 2pm on March 22, 2020. Effective immediately there shall be no new rental occupancies of any nature or duration within the City of Southport.
4. These restrictions are effective immediately and are in addition to the protocols adopted by the Board of Aldermen on March 19, 2020, and shall remain in force until terminated by the Mayor of the City of Southport.

This the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.



City of Southport  
*Joseph P. Hatem*  
Joseph P. Hatem, Mayor