

NASSAU COUNTY
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 23
(Emergency Management – COVID-19)

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County has declared a State of Local Emergency within Nassau County; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-51, directing that a Public Health Emergency be declared in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52, declaring a State of Emergency in the State of Florida regarding the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, at this time, there is no vaccine for COVID-19 and it is easily transmitted among citizens and a serious threat of impact from COVID-19 exists throughout Nassau County and the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners issued Executive Order Number 16 that addressed the mandatory utilization of masks; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order Number 22 extended the mandatory requirement to September 25, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order Number 16 required that: Every operator, employee, customer or patron, over the age of six (6), of a business establishment must wear a face mask or covering at all times while indoors at that business establishment unless he or she is able to engage in social distancing or unless wearing a face mask or covering significantly interferes with the provision or receipt of goods or services offered or received at that establishment (i.e. patrons at a restaurant, clients at a barber shop or hair salon, patients at a dentist's office); and

WHEREAS, the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners finds that the mandatory requirement for masks should be amended to reflect that masks should be encouraged; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Surgeon General has issued guidelines as to masks and social distancing; and

WHEREAS, Nassau County believes that encouraging individuals serving the public, as well as the public, to wear cloth face coverings will significantly help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and lessen the positive cases in Nassau County; and

WHEREAS, the CDC advises that, while a significant portion of individuals with COVID-19 are asymptomatic, the virus can still spread between people interacting in close proximity – for example, speaking, coughing, or sneezing – even if those people are not exhibiting symptoms; and

WHEREAS, Nassau County finds that there is a public health benefit to encourage the wearing of face coverings in all places open to the public.

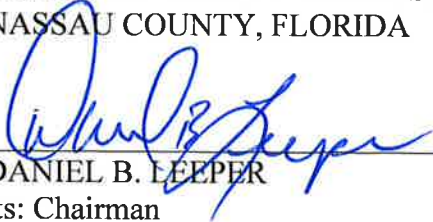
NOW, THEREFORE, DANIEL B. LEEPER, as Chairman, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Local State of Emergency and County Emergency Management Plan and with the consent of the Emergency Management Director, promulgate the following Executive Order to take immediate effect:

1. Every operator, employee, customer or patron, over the age of six (6), of a business establishment is encouraged to wear a face mask or covering at all times while indoors at that business establishment and continue to enforce social distancing.
2. Public safety, fire, law enforcement and other life safety personnel are exempted from this requirement, as their personal protective equipment requirements will be governed by their respective agencies.

3. Every owner/manager of an establishment listed in Paragraph 1 should develop and implement a health and safety plan consistent with this Order encouraging protective face coverings and CDC guidelines and to post the plan in a conspicuous location sufficient to provide notice to persons within the business of the requirements of the plan.
4. A face covering includes any covering which snugly covers the nose and mouth, whether store bought or homemade, and which is secured in place. Persons who wear masks should review the CDC and Florida Department of Health guidelines regarding properly and safely applying, removing and cleaning masks.
5. This Order shall be effective 12:00 noon on September 24, 2020 and will expire thirty (30) days from the date below unless extended by subsequent order.
6. All persons entering Nassau County public buildings shall wear a facemask and continue to wear them while in the public building, including attendance at public hearings.
7. Persons not wearing a facemask in Nassau County public buildings shall be asked to leave the building.
8. This Order is in addition to the Executive Orders issued by Governor DeSantis.
9. This Order shall be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court.

DATED this 24th day of September, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA



DANIEL B. LEEPER
Its: Chairman

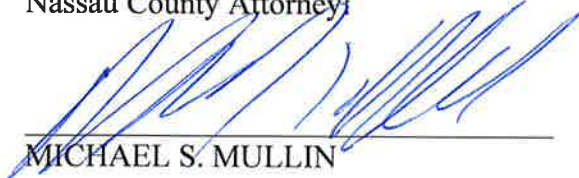
Attest as to Chairman's signature:

JOHN A. CRAWFORD

Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

Approved as to form by the

Nassau County Attorney:



MICHAEL S. MULLIN