

JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER NO. 002-20

Applicable within the entirety of Johnson County, Kansas

This Public Health Order is issued by the Board of County Commissioners of Johnson County, Kansas, sitting as the County Board of Health, on November 13, 2020 and is effective the 16th day of November 2020, at 12:01 A.M. to slow the spread of COVID-19 in Johnson County, Kansas pursuant to the authority provided in K.S.A. 65-119 and other applicable laws or regulations.

The Board, sitting and acting as the County Board of Health, upon a motion duly made, seconded, and carried adopted the following Order, to-wit:

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency for COVID-19 beginning January 27, 2020, with now more than 10,110,000 cases of the illness and more than 238,000 deaths as a result of the illness across the United States; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared a pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, a State of Disaster Emergency was proclaimed for the State of Kansas on March 12, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States pursuant to Sections 201 and 301 of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. § 1601, et seq. and consistent with Section 1135 of the Social Security Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 5121-5207 (the “Stafford Act”)); and

WHEREAS, as of this date, in Kansas there have been 109,225 reported positive cases of COVID-19 spread among all 105 counties, including 1,215 deaths; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners of Johnson County issued a state of local disaster emergency declaration, which was renewed and extended on May 28, 2020, and which remains in place at the time of this Order; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has resulted in 18,407 reported positive cases of COVID-19 in Johnson County and the deaths of 239 Johnson County residents; and

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 endangers the health, safety, and welfare of persons and property within Johnson County, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the spread of COVID-19, measures that are recommended and considered effective by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) include, among

other measures, avoiding close contact with other people and covering one's mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when in public settings; and

WHEREAS, the increased spread of COVID-19 also presents a serious threat to the continued effective operation of the local economy within Johnson County; and

WHEREAS, wearing a mask or other whole face covering in public venues reduces transmission of the virus, helps keep our businesses open and our economy running, and gets and keeps children in school; and

WHEREAS, the Kansas Governor's Executive Order 20-52, requiring the wearing of masks or other face coverings in public, remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, in general, large public gatherings lead to heightened risks of large-scale COVID-19 person-to-person transmission; and

WHEREAS, the intent of this Order is not to deprive any person or entity of any rights protected by the United States Constitution, the Kansas Constitution, or any other law, but merely to set forth restrictions which would best protect Johnson County residents against the community spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, there are certain activities where the wearing of masks and face coverings is exempted pursuant to the terms of Executive Order 20-52 where customers may be in the proximity of others for extended periods of time (such as when customers may be eating or drinking), which means such activities present a heightened risk of a person infected with COVID-19 transmitting it to another person; and

WHEREAS, both the number of positive cases and the percentage of individuals tested with positive test results within Johnson County have increased greatly and significantly in the past weeks; and

WHEREAS, the intensive care units at the largest hospitals and all schools within Johnson County are in imminent risk of incapacity; and

WHEREAS, for the aforementioned and other reasons, and in recognition and furtherance of the County's responsibility to provide for and ensure the health, safety, security, and welfare of the people of Johnson County, requiring that masks or other face coverings be worn in public, limiting the size of public gatherings, ensuring physical distancing, and placing certain other restrictions on activities are all measures that can be taken to slow and reduce the spread of COVID-19.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the Board of County Commissioners of Johnson County, Kansas, sitting and acting as the County Board of Health, that:

Section I. Social Distancing and Public Gatherings Provisions.

1. Individuals within a public space shall maintain 6 feet of physical distancing from other individuals, unless such individuals reside together, or an exception stated within Section I.3. of this Order applies. "Public space" means any indoor or outdoor space or area that is open to the public but does not include private residential property or private offices or workplaces that are not open to customers or public visitors.

2. Within a public space where a business or organization operates, such business or organization shall ensure that 6 feet of physical distancing is maintained between individuals and groups of individuals, unless such individuals reside together, or an exception stated within Section I.3. of this Order applies.

3. Exceptions to the 6 feet of physical distancing requirements stated within Sections I.1. and I.2. shall include:

a. Businesses and organizations that provide services that intrinsically require staff from the business or organization to be within less than 6 feet from one another or the customer, such as dentists, hair salons, barber shops, nail salons, chiropractors, massage services, tattoo parlors, medical services providers, and similar services, provided that staff wear protective face coverings as directed by Executive Order 20-52

b. Businesses where tasks completed by employees require such employees to work within 6 feet of one another.

c. While seated at a restaurant, bar, night club, or other business licensed to sell alcohol for on-premises consumption, individuals at the same table may be located within 6 feet of one another. However, there shall not be more than 8 individuals at any such table. Individuals seated in a bar area shall be located at least 6 feet from any other individuals seated in that area. Congregating of standing individuals in bar or waiting areas is prohibited. Also, all tables and individuals seated at a table shall be located at least 6 feet from any other tables and individuals seated at such tables.

d. Persons who have one or more physical barrier(s) between them and any other persons. "Physical barriers" shall be defined as a partition or wall at least 3' in height above the head of the persons so separated, and impervious to air circulation, e.g. a Plexiglas shield

4. Mass gatherings within specific enclosed, confined, or designated public spaces, whether indoors or outdoors, shall be limited to 50 total individuals or 50 percent of the capacity permitted under the applicable fire code, whichever is less, and subject to the requirement within Section I.1. and Section I.2. of this Order that individuals must maintain 6 feet of physical distance. In the absence of a capacity established under the applicable fire code, the mass gathering shall be limited to 50 total individuals, subject to individuals maintaining 6 feet of social distance pursuant to Section I.1. and Section I.2. of this Order. For purposes of defining mass gatherings, distinct buildings and distinct rooms shall be considered as distinct spaces. Any business or organization hosting or organizing a mass gathering (e.g. a conference) shall be responsible for ensuring individuals' compliance with the mass gathering and physical distancing requirements stated within this Order.

Activities within the following locations shall not be considered mass gatherings and shall not be subject to the above limitations on the number of individuals or percent of capacity:

- a. Restaurants;
- b. Bars, night clubs, and other businesses licensed to sell alcohol for on-premises consumption;
- c. Fitness centers and health clubs;
- d. Healthcare organizations; and
- e. Organizations providing funeral and burial services.

f. Retail stores

Businesses and organizations seeking to hold an event that is non-conforming to this section, such as a conference, wedding or other mass gathering in excess of the limit, shall submit a plan to the County specifying how they will ensure public safety during operations, in compliance with the other sections of this Order.

5. Outdoor and indoor entertainment venues with attendance in excess of 2,000 people may not host events for the duration of this Order.

6. The following are exempt from the mass gatherings limitations in Section I.4. of this Order, and are instead encouraged to maintain physical distancing as much as is feasible and to maintain 6 feet of physical distance between individuals who do not reside together, when feasible:

- a. Religious institutions and activities
- b. Election polling places;
- c. Licensed childcare facilities;
- d. Schools and activities within the purview of school's governing body; and
- e. Court facilities.

7. Masks or Other Face Coverings: Kansas Governor's Executive Order 20-52 regarding face coverings remains in effect.

Section II. Provisions Specific to Certain Activities.

1. Nail salons, barber shops, hair salons, tattoo parlors, dentists and other personal services businesses where 6 feet of physical distancing is not feasible must only serve customers for pre-scheduled appointments or online or text message check-in.

2. Fitness centers and health clubs must close locker rooms, except for when a portion of a locker room may be necessary to remain open for use as restroom facilities.

3. Fairs, festivals, carnivals, parades, and other similar events shall not occur. Gatherings for the purpose of political protest are excluded; however, such gatherings must abide by Section I.2 above.

4. All bars, night clubs, restaurants or other businesses licensed to sell alcohol for on-premises consumption must abide by a curfew and close by 12:00 A.M. (midnight) and remain closed for a minimum of four (4) hours. Any such establishment may continue to provide carryout, drive-through and delivery food and beverage services after 12:00 A.M. (midnight).

5. All restaurants must cease all in-person dining and abide by a curfew to close such in-person dining areas by 12:00 A.M. (midnight) and remain closed for a minimum of four (4) hours. Any such establishment may continue to provide carryout, drive-through and delivery food and beverage services after 12:00 A.M. (midnight).

6. All recreational and youth organized sports tournaments, games, practices, and related events may still occur, but attendance shall be limited to a maximum of 2 attendees per participant and such activities shall remain subject to the physical distancing and mass gathering

On February 25, 2021, the Board of Public Health voted to remove the curfews and closing times mentioned in Section II, paragraphs (4) and (5).

provisions included within Section I of this Order. Collegiate sporting events and sporting events governed by Kansas State High School Activities Association and/or school boards are not subject to these provisions but are strongly encouraged to abide by them at a minimum.

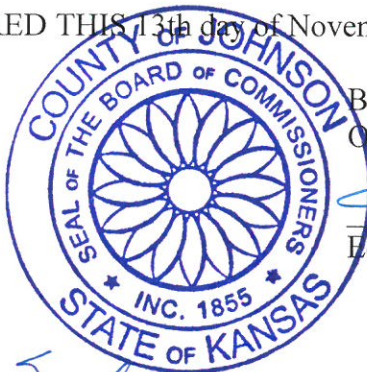
7. If a business or organization has multiple distinct components that fit within different portions of this Order, each distinct component shall be required to fit the requirements of this Order that apply most specifically to such component of the business or organization.

Section III. Lawful Order. This Order is a lawfully issued order pursuant to K.S.A. 65-202 and K.S.A. 65-119(a) and is also a “public health directive” as identified within Section 9 of 2020 Special Session House Bill No. 2016. Individuals and organizations within Johnson County are required to comply with this Order.

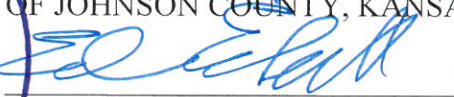
Section IV. Severability. If any portion of this Order is found or determined to be invalid, such finding, or determination shall only affect the portion of the Order that is at issue and shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the Order.

Section V. Effective Date; Conclusion. This Order is effective at 12:01 A.M. on Monday, the 16th day of November 2020, and shall remain in effect through 11:59 P.M. on Sunday, the 31st day of January, 2021, unless it is amended, revoked, or replaced.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 13th day of November 2020.



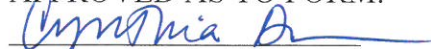
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS


Ed Eilert, Chairman

ATTEST:


Lynda Sader
Deputy County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Cynthia Dunham
Interim Chief Counsel

FILED

NOV 13 2020

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK
JOHNSON COUNTY KANSAS