DECLARATION OF A STATE OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY
FOR JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS

WHEREAS on the 13th day of March 2020, the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Johnson County, Kansas finds that a disaster has occurred, or the threat thereof is imminent within Johnson County, Kansas as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) and the confirmed outbreak and person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in the United States, Kansas and Johnson County.

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, has been confirmed in Kansas and in Johnson County, resulting in serious illness and at least one death to date in Kansas; and

WHEREAS, such conditions endanger health, safety and welfare of persons and property within the border of Johnson County, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, to reduce spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to increase containment of the virus, including cancellation of large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the resulting epidemic in Kansas and Johnson County continue to threaten the life and health of our citizens and visitors as well as the economy and remains a public disaster affecting life, health, property and the public peace.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Johnson County, Kansas, pursuant to K.S.A. 48-932, and amendments thereto, that:

1. A State of Local Disaster Emergency exists for Johnson County, Kansas as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19).

2. The area within the border of Johnson County, Kansas covered by this declaration is the entire area of Johnson County, Kansas.

3. This Declaration specifically prohibits all large public gatherings of people in the County. Large public gatherings are those with more than 250 people in attendance or anticipated to attend, except for governmental and judicial functions, healthcare facilities, private business operations, religious and faith-based activities, weddings and funerals. For any size gathering of people, the County encourages everyone to follow the guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), federal, state and local public health officials and private medical providers.

4. This Declaration is supplemental to and does not limit or modify any orders, directives, management or control of the Coronavirus pandemic or other public health matters done by the Johnson County Public Health Department or by the Johnson County Public Health Officer.
5. This declaration of a local disaster emergency shall activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all local and inter-jurisdictional disaster emergency plans which are applicable to Johnson County, Kansas and shall initiate the rendering of aid and assistance thereunder.

6. The board of county commissioners has all rights and/or powers to perform such functions as are vested in said Board by and through the provisions of the Kansas Emergency Management Act. Any rights or powers lawfully exercised, or any actions taken pursuant to local disaster emergency plans shall continue and have full force and effect as authorized by law unless modified or terminated in the manner prescribed by law.

7. This declaration of a local disaster emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the Johnson County Records and Tax Administration Department, which performs the functions of County Clerk pursuant to the Johnson County Home Rule Charter.

8. This state of local disaster emergency is effective immediately and shall remain in effect for a period of seven (7) days unless terminated earlier or renewed by consent of the board of county commissioners. The board of county commissioners will consider this matter at its regular meeting on Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.


BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS

Ed Eilert, Chairman

ATTEST:

Lynda Sader
Deputy County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

F. Lawrence McAulay, Jr.
Assistant County Counselor
SHORT FORM ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

State of: KS
County of: Johnson

This instrument was acknowledged before me on 3/13/2020
Date

By Ed Eilert
Name (s) of person (s)

SEAL
Penny F. Pearson
Notary Signature

My Appointment Expires: 12/9/2021
Date