

**EMERGENCY DECLARATION
2020-141**

WHEREAS, the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to pose an imminent health risk to Florida residents and visitors, including Levy County residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump enacted a National State of Emergency declaring the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant an emergency declaration for all states, tribes, territories, and the District of Columbia pursuant to section 501 (b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (“the Stafford Act”); and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52, declaring a state of emergency in the State of Florida related to COVID-19 and the effects thereof on the State, and designating the Director of the Division of Emergency Management as the State Coordinating Officer, which state of emergency was extended by issuance of Executive Orders 20-114, 20-166, 20-213 and 20-276 by Governor DeSantis; and

WHEREAS, prior to and subsequent to March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued numerous Executive Orders related to the state of emergency in the State of Florida resulting from COVID-19, including orders suspending laws and regulations relating to sales of alcoholic beverages, suspending and limiting operations relating to restaurants, bars, pubs and nightclubs, limiting gatherings, directing individuals to follow CDC guidance regarding social distancing and directing individuals to stay at home except for essential services and activities; and

WHEREAS, circumstances change rapidly as the result of COVID-19 infections and the spread thereof in the nation and the State, leading to increased changes in governmental and civilian operations to prevent the further spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted by Article VIII, Section 1, Florida Constitution, Section 125.01, Fla. Stat., Chapter 252, Fla. Stat., and Article II, Chapter 30, Levy County Code, on March 17, 2020, the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Levy County (“Board”), issued Emergency Declaration 2020-020, declaring a Local State of Emergency in Levy County, waiving certain procedures and

formalities under current circumstances in order to effectively address emergency situations that may arise for Levy County which was extended by Emergency Declaration 2020-021 dated March 24, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-025 dated March 31, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-029 dated April 7, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-032 dated April 14, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-035 dated April 21, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-039 dated April 28, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-046 dated May 5, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-052, dated May 12, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-053 dated May 19, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-056 dated May 26, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-066 dated June 2, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-067 dated June 9, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-072 dated June 16, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-073 dated June 23, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-079 dated June 30, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-080 dated July 7, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-081 dated July 14, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-083 dated July 21, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-087 dated July 28, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-088 dated August 4, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-089 dated August 11, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-090 dated August 18, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-091 dated August 25, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-098 dated September 1, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-103 dated September 8, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-104 dated September 15, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-109 dated September 22, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-111 dated September 29, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-112 dated October 6, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-116 dated October 13, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-119 dated October 20, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-121 dated October 27, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-124 dated November 3, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-127 dated November 10, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-131 dated November 17, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-135 dated November 24, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-136 dated December 1, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-137 dated December 8, 2020, Emergency Declaration 2020-138 dated December 15, 2020 and Emergency Declaration 2020-140 dated December 22, 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of Levy County to continue to take protective measures within its power that are necessary to protect the health and safety of Levy County residents and visitors from threats arising from COVID-19 and the spread thereof; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT THEREFORE DECLARED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY:

Section 1. Adoption of Recitals. The recitals above and as contained in Emergency Declarations 2020-020, 2020-021, 2020-025, 2020-029, 2020-032, 2020-035, 2020-039, 2020-046, 2020-052, 2020-053, 2020-056, 2020-066, 2020-067, 2020-072, 2020-073, 2020-079, 2020-080, 2020-081, 2020-083, 2020-087, 2020-088, 2020-089, 2020-090, 2020-091, 2020-098, 2020-103, 2020-104, 2020-109, 2020-111, 2020-112, 2020-116, 2020-119, 2020-121, 2020-124, 2020-127, 2020-131, 2020-135, 2020-

136, 2020-137, 2020-138 and 2020-140 are hereby included and adopted herein by reference.

Section 2. Extension of Local State of Emergency. Due to the continued serious health risks and related threats to the health and safety of Levy County residents and visitors arising from COVID-19, the Local State of Emergency declared by Emergency Declaration 2020-020, extended by Emergency Declaration 2020-021, Emergency Declaration 2020-025, Emergency Declaration 2020-029, Emergency Declaration 2020-032, Emergency Declaration 2020-035, Emergency Declaration 2020-039, Emergency Declaration 2020-046, Emergency Declaration 2020-052, Emergency Declaration 2020-053, Emergency Declaration 2020-056, Emergency Declaration 2020-066, Emergency Declaration 2020-067, Emergency Declaration 2020-072, Emergency Declaration 2020-073, Emergency Declaration 2020-079, Emergency Declaration 2020-080, Emergency Declaration 2020-081, Emergency Declaration 2020-083, Emergency Declaration 2020-087, Emergency Declaration 2020-088, Emergency Declaration 2020-089, Emergency Declaration 2020-090, Emergency Declaration 2020-091, Emergency Declaration 2020-098, Emergency Declaration 2020-103, Emergency Declaration 2020-104, Emergency Declaration 2020-109, Emergency Declaration 2020-111, Emergency Declaration 2020-112, Emergency Declaration 2020-116, Emergency Declaration 2020-119, Emergency Declaration 2020-121, Emergency Declaration 2020-124, Emergency Declaration 2020-127, Emergency Declaration 2020-131, Emergency Declaration 2020-135, Emergency Declaration 2020-136, Emergency Declaration 2020-137, Emergency Declaration 2020-138 and Emergency Declaration 2020-140 will remain in effect within the legal boundaries of Levy County, Florida for seven (7) days from the date hereof and may be extended by additional Emergency Declaration or Executive Order as necessary in seven (7) day increments.

Section 3. Waiver of Procedures and Formalities Otherwise Required. Due to the extension of the Local State of Emergency, the procedures and formalities required of the County by law or ordinance continue to be waived as they pertain to:

- (a) Performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community;
- (b) Entering into contracts;
- (c) Incurring obligations;
- (d) Employment of permanent and temporary workers;
- (e) Utilization of volunteer works;
- (f) Rental of equipment;
- (g) Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials and facilities; and
- (h) Appropriation and expenditure of public funds.

Section 4. Additional Waivers. The Board of County Commissioners, through its Chair, as provided in Article II, Chapter 30, Levy County Code, also hereby

reserves the authority to waive any procedures or formalities otherwise required by policy or law that may authorized by Section 252.38, Florida Statutes, by Article II, Chapter 30, Levy County Code, by subsequent Orders of the Governor, or by any other state or federal authority with jurisdiction.

Section 5. Delegation of Authority. The authority delegated to the Director of Emergency Management by Emergency Declarations 2020-020, 2020-021, 2020-025, 2020-029, 2020-032, 2020-035, 2020-039, 2020-046, 2020-052, 2020-053, 2020-056, 2020-066, 2020-067, 2020-072, 2020-073, 2020-079, 2020-080, 2020-081, 2020-083, 2020-087, 2020-088, 2020-089, 2020-090, 2020-091, 2020-098, 2020-103, 2020-104, 2020-109, 2020-111, 2020-112, 2020-116, 2020-119, 2020-121, 2020-124, 2020-127, 2020-131, 2020-135, 2020-136, 2020-137, 2020-138 and 2020-140 to implement and administer any applicable provisions of County disaster emergency plans, agreements or supporting documents, is hereby extended for seven (7) days from the date hereof.

Section 6. Alterations or Rescission. This extension of the declared Local State of Emergency may be altered or rescinded either by the issuance of an appropriate Emergency Declaration or Executive Order, or by an appropriate declaration of the Board of County Commissioners as provided in Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and Article II, Chapter 30, Levy County Code.

ENACTED this the 29th day of December, 2020 and to be ratified the 5th day of January, 2021 or as soon thereafter as a quorum of the Board can meet.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Matthew Brooks, Chairman

ATTEST: CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
AND EX OFFICIO TO THE BOARD

Danny J. Shipp

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

Anne Bast Brown, County Attorney