



Chatham County Board of Commissioners

124 Bull Street, Savannah, GA 31401

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

March 24, 2020

Clarification of Chatham County State of Emergency

Chatham County (March 24, 2020) - On Sunday, March 22, 2020, Chairman Al Scott signed a resolution declaring a State of Emergency in Chatham County. In this Local State of Emergency, Chairman Scott ordered that all eating establishments, bar and nightclubs within the County shall reduce indoor seating capacity and shall additionally ensure that seating is sufficient to achieve six foot social distancing among those customers within the establishment. Restaurants bars, night clubs that cannot achieve the six foot social distancing are ordered to close. Restaurants capable of providing delivery, take-out or drive-through services are encouraged to increase these services and avoid in-house dining as much as possible.

Please note that all municipalities within Chatham County are required to abide by the Local State of Emergency as outlined above. If a particular municipality would like to add to the restrictions, they are free to do so. However, **no municipality is permitted to lessen the restrictions put in place by the Chairman Scott's declaration.** Therefore, all eating establishments, bar and nightclubs within the City of Bloomingdale, City of Pooler, City of Port Wentworth, City of Savannah, City of Garden City, City of Tybee Island, Town of Thunderbolt and the Town of Vernonburg shall reduce indoor seating capacity and shall additionally ensure that such seating is sufficient to achieve 6 foot social distancing among those customers within the establishment.

Likewise, all houses of worship in these municipalities shall strive for density reduction in all services, whether scheduled or based upon a life event such as a funeral or baptism, and wherever practical shall practice social distancing. Houses of worship are further encouraged to use social media or other video outlets to broadcast worship services.

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