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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF LINCOLN**

**PROCLAMATION OF A
STATE OF EMERGENCY**

The following Proclamation is issued by the Chairman of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners:

WHEREAS, the coronavirus (“COVID-19”) is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus previously unidentified in humans and which can spread from person to person;

WHEREAS, in response to the global spread of the virus and the disease it causes, the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) has warned of the high public health threat posed by COVID-19 globally and in the United States and has deemed it necessary to prohibit or restrict travel to areas designated by the CDC; the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency in the United States for COVID-19; and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (“NCDHHS”) confirmed multiple cases of COVID-19 in North Carolina as of March 10, 2020;

WHEREAS, Governor Roy Cooper by Executive Order No. 116, declared a State of Emergency for the State of North Carolina on March 10, 2020 that addresses response and protective actions to prevent the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, in consultation with health care professionals and based upon guidance from CDC and NCDHHS, arrangements must be made immediately to take such actions as are deemed necessary and appropriate to ensure that COVID-19 remains controlled and that residents and visitors in Lincoln County remain safe and secure.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority contained in Article 1A of N.C.G.S. § Chapter 166A, Article 36A of N.C.G.S. § Chapter 14, and Chapter 31 of the Lincoln County State of Emergency Ordinance, I, Chairman Carrol Mitchem of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim that a State of Emergency exists within Lincoln County.

I further proclaim by and with the consent of the mayors of the municipalities within Lincoln County, this Declaration of State of Emergency applies within the municipal limits of the following municipal governments:

Lincoln County

City of Lincolnton

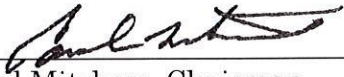
I further proclaim that the directions set forth below, which are authorized by Lincoln County Code of Ordinances, and the Lincoln County Health Director are necessary in order to maintain an acceptable level of public order, services, and protection of lives, safety and property during this emergency, and that the same shall be in effect within Lincoln County until this Proclamation expires or is rescinded by the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners. I hereby order all county employees and all other emergency management personnel subject to the authority granted to me as the Chairman of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the emergency ordinances.

- A. Restricted Access: The Lincoln County Health Director may recommend to the County Manager of areas within which travel should be restricted except by those in search of medical assistance, food or other commodity or service necessary to sustain the well-being of themselves or family members.
- B. The Public Health Director may recommend to the County Manager any other activities or conditions the control of which may be reasonably necessary to maintain order and protect lives or property during the State of Emergency.
- C. The gathering of persons in groups of 50 or more in entertainment venues, county and municipal parks, or any other places of public assembly is highly discouraged. Health care facilities, schools, churches, government offices, business operations and day cares are exempted from restrictions.

I further proclaim that the Emergency Management Plan adopted by Lincoln County, and all applicable mutual assistance compacts and agreements are in effect and shall remain in effect until this proclamation expires or is rescinded by the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners. All Emergency Management, Health and Medical Services personnel are hereby ordered to cooperate in the implementation of the provisions of the Lincoln County's Emergency Operations Plan and all applicable mutual assistance compacts and agreements, and to furnish assistance thereunder.

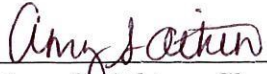
I direct that copies of this Proclamation be disseminated to municipalities and mass communications media for publication and broadcast, and that a copy of this Proclamation be posted in the County Manager's Office, on the Lincoln County website and other public buildings as appropriate.

This Proclamation shall be effective as of 10 a.m. on March 16, 2020 and shall remain in effect until rescinded pursuant to the Lincoln County Code of Ordinances and North Carolina General Statutes.



Carrol Mitchem, Chairman
Lincoln County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



Amy S. Atkins, Clerk to the Board
Lincoln County Board of Commissioners

