



**EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 13  
PALM BEACH COUNTY COVID-19  
TEMPORARY BEACH CLOSURES**

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19, a respiratory illness caused by a virus that spreads rapidly from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, constitutes a clear and present threat to the lives, health, welfare, and safety of the people of Palm Beach County; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis, issued Executive Order 20-52 declaring a state of emergency for the State of Florida as a result of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, pursuant to Section 252.38(3)(a)(5), Florida Statutes, Palm Beach County declared a local State of Emergency due to the Coronavirus pandemic, which has since been extended in accordance with applicable law; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 24, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis also issued Executive Order 20-83 directing the State Surgeon General and the State Health Officer to issue a public health advisory for senior persons and persons that have a serious underlying medical condition that places them at a high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 to stay at home. Such conditions include, but are not limited to, chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma, serious heart conditions, immunocompromised status, including those in cancer treatment, and severe obesity; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Ron DeSantis has issued a number of subsequent Executive Orders in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including Executive Order 20-112, a Phase 1: Safe Smart Step-by-Step Plan for Florida's Recovery, under which the Governor re-opened certain businesses, and Executive Order 20-120 which, among other things, served to include Palm Beach County under Phase 1, and Executive Order 20-123, in which the Governor extended and brought all Florida counties into Full Phase 1; and

**WHEREAS**, in light of the recent increase in positive reported cases of COVID-19 within our County and the State of Florida, the continuing guidance from the Florida Department of Health and the CDC regarding social distancing, and the upcoming temporary closure of the beaches in neighboring Miami-Dade and Broward Counties, the County Administrator finds it necessary to close all public, municipal, and private beaches and beach parks in Palm Beach County for the Fourth of July holiday weekend.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** pursuant to Palm Beach County Code Chapter 9, Article II, Section 9-35, as well as the authorities granted to me by Declaration of Emergency issued by Governor DeSantis in Executive Order 20-52, by Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, by the Board of County Commissioners, by the Palm Beach County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, and as otherwise provided by law, I hereby order as follows:

1. **Recitals.** The foregoing recitals are hereby incorporated herein by reference.
2. **Temporary Beach Closures.**  
All public, municipal, and private beaches, including all beach parks, in Palm Beach County shall be closed from 12:01 a.m. on Friday, July 3, 2020 until 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, July 5, 2020. Restaurants and retail establishments within beach parks may remain open subject to the restrictions included in current State and local emergency orders applicable to Palm Beach County, including, but not limited to, any occupancy restrictions.
3. **Applicability.** This Order applies in all incorporated and unincorporated areas of Palm Beach County.
4. **Enforcement.** The Sheriff of Palm Beach County, other law enforcement agencies including municipal law enforcement agencies, and any other personnel authorized by law, including, but not limited to, the personnel described in Section 9-37 of the Palm Beach County Code of Ordinances, are authorized to enforce this Order. Compliance and enforcement processes shall include the provision of a written or verbal warning and opportunity to correct before citations resulting in fines are issued. Authorized personnel may issue civil citations for fines as follows: individuals shall be fined twenty-five dollars (\$25) for the first violation, fifty dollars (\$50) for the second violation, and one-hundred dollars (\$100) for each additional violation; businesses shall be fined two-hundred-and-fifty dollars (\$250) for the first violation, three-hundred-and-fifty dollars (\$350) for the second violation, and five-hundred dollars (\$500) for each additional violation. Each incident of a continuing violation shall be deemed a separate additional violation. Nothing herein is intended to nor shall limit any additional enforcement mechanisms otherwise authorized by law.
5. **Conflicts.** Any provision(s) within this Order that conflict(s) with any state or federal law or constitutional provision, or conflict(s) with, or are superseded by, a current or subsequently-issued Executive Order of the Governor or the President of the United States, shall be deemed inapplicable and deemed to be severed from this Order, with the remainder of the Order remaining intact and in full force and effect. To the extent application of some or all of the provisions of this Order is prohibited on the sovereign land of a federally or state recognized sovereign or Indian tribe, such application is expressly excluded from this Order. The provisions of this Order shall



supersede the specific provisions of any previously issued County Emergency Order that is contrary to or in conflict with this Order.

6. **Effective Date.** This Order shall be effective upon signature and apply strictly to the closure dates herein. This Order shall expire on 11:59 p.m. on July 5, 2020.

**PALM BEACH COUNTY**

By: *Vendemia C. Baker*  
County Administrator  
*6/29/2020*  
Date

**APPROVED AS TO  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY**

By: *Denise Marie Nieman*  
County Attorney

ATTEST  
CLERK & COMPTROLLER  
By: *Shaun R. Beck*