

Earlier today, I posted here a summary of the Governor's most recent executive orders, including but not limited to, closing non-essential businesses and limiting travel in NJ around the clock. The Governor's orders directed all residents to stay home and maintain social distancing. Copies of the full executive orders are attached here for your reference. As of today, there are 1,327 total confirmed cases in the State and six confirmed cases in Gloucester County. I also had the opportunity today to participate in a conference call with mayors from around the State with Senator Menendez and Senator Booker. According to the Senators, NJ could potentially see upwards of 13,000 cases of COVID-19 based on current trends, but it is their hope that the measures we are taking now will bring us far below those estimates.

*All residents are asked to adhere to the Governor's orders which go into effect tonight 3/21/2020 at 9:00pm. Through the State Policy, State Attorney General and County Prosecutor's Office, our local police officers have been charged with enforcing these orders. Please do not put our officers in a position where they are having to waste resources because residents are unable to follow the Governor's orders. Residents are permitted to travel under the orders for the specified essential needs and are welcome to walk or exercise as long as social distancing is followed. Please avoid gatherings or groups of any kind, and please ensure that your children are doing the same. Our police officers are continuing to work through this situation to keep us safe while we are keeping ourselves and our families safe. We appreciate everything that our police department and all those involved in these efforts are doing to serve all of us.

*The State has established the New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub to provide state residents with the most current information available. The site also provides a search option for specific topics related to the virus and how the state is responding to mitigate the virus spreading. Please visit the new site at <https://covid19.nj.gov/>.

*FEMA has established a new site to address many of the rumors circulating throughout our nation related to COVID-19. That site is <https://www.fema.gov/Coronavirus-Rumor-Control>.

*Effective today at 3:30pm, I signed our Local Emergency Declaration drafted and co-signed by the Borough's Emergency Management Coordinator Jim Foley. By declaring a local emergency, this provides additional access to Federal and State resources and funding a result of the current circumstances under the Federal Declaration and the Stafford Act. This does not alter or conflict in any way how we are responding to the current situation, but simply builds on what the Federal, State and County governments have already ordered...we continue to take our guidance from these authorities.

Just to reiterate what the authorities have ordered...please, please, please stay home when at all possible and avoid contact with others. Hopefully if we all adhere to these guidelines this will all be behind us sooner than later. Please feel free to visit any of sources provided through this page for more information or email me at michael.razze@pitman.org.

Thank you and stay well,

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