AMENDED AND RESTATE EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 27

IMPOSING RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN INDOOR USES

WHEREAS, a state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency was proclaimed by Lawrence J. Hogan, the Governor of the State of Maryland, on March 5, 2020, and renewed on March 17, 2020, April 10, 2020, May 6, 2020, June 3, 2020, and July 1, 2020, to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the State, and the state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency still exists;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, County Executive Steuart Pittman issued Executive Order No. 16 proclaiming a civil emergency in Anne Arundel County due to the rapid onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, which Executive Order was extended by the County Council on March 20, 2020, to continue for the duration of the Governor’s state of emergency proclamation;

WHEREAS, on March 30, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order No. 20-03-30-01 which ordered all nonessential employees in the State to stay at home for an undetermined period of time in an effort to arrest the increase in the number of residents contracting the virus (the “Stay At Home” Order);

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2020 the Governor issued Executive Order No. 20-05-13-01 which gave Maryland counties the discretion to review local data and make independent decisions about when it is appropriate to relax certain restrictions;

WHEREAS, the effects of COVID-19 require that local officials be vigilant in advising the residents of measures they can take to protect health, safety, and welfare;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) advises that social distancing is the most effective way of slowing the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to pose serious health risk for the citizens of Anne Arundel County, particularly elderly residents and those who are immunosuppressed or otherwise have high-risk medical conditions;
WHEREAS, both the Governor and the County Executive have issued various Executive Orders relaxing the provisions of the Governor’s Stay At Home Order and allowing certain businesses formerly ordered to be closed to reopen, under certain conditions to ensure public safety;

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2020, the County Executive issued Executive Order No. 25, lifting previously imposed restrictions on many commercial and social uses based upon health metrics indicating the transmission of COVID-19 was being checked and in some ways diminished by the various protective measures undertaken;

WHEREAS, over the past three weeks, these improving health metrics have reversed and are now worsening, indicating a rebound of the transmission rate of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order No. 20-06-10-01, allowing local jurisdictions to impose stricter requirements on the reopening of businesses if necessary and reasonable to save lives or prevent exposure to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the County Executive and the County Health Officer have determined that the health metrics previously identified by the Health Officer as trending positive are no longer indicating an improvement but are indicating a worsening, and require the imposition of further protective measures to slow and stop the transmission of COVID-19.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steuart Pittman, County Executive, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Charter and laws of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, and §§ 1-6-101 et. seq. of the Anne Arundel County Code, and pursuant to the authority granted to local jurisdictions in Governor Hogan’s Executive Order No. 20-06-10-01, and to save lives and prevent further exposure to the COVID-19 virus within Anne Arundel County and the State of Maryland, do hereby proclaim and order on this 24th day of July, 2020:

1. Executive Order No. 27, dated July 23, 2020 and entitled “Imposing Restrictions on Certain Indoor Uses,” is hereby amended and restated in its entirety as set forth herein.

2. This Amended and Restated Executive Order No. 27 is a Local Order as described in, contemplated by, and authorized by Governor Hogan’s Executive Order No. 20-06-10-01, to modify certain provisions of Governor Hogan’s Executive Order No. 20-06-10-01.

3. Restaurants, bars, and other similar establishments in Anne Arundel County that sell food and alcoholic beverages, or alcoholic beverages only, for consumption on-premises in indoor dining facilities (“Restaurants”) shall cease all indoor service at 10:00 p.m. daily.

4. Indoor social gatherings of more than 25 people are hereby prohibited. Outdoor social gatherings of more than 50 people are hereby prohibited. For the purposes of this Amended and Restated Executive Order No. 27, “social gatherings” does not include gatherings at retail stores, offices, Restaurants, casinos, youth sports, gatherings for religious or spiritual purposes on the
premises of a religious or spiritual facility, or wedding receptions (subject to the restrictions for Foodservice Establishments in the Governor's Executive Order 20-06-10-01). “Social gatherings” includes, but are not limited to, parties, cookouts, concerts or performances, parades, festivals, conventions, fundraisers, and other gatherings that are not associated with operating or patronizing a business.

5. Food service establishments located in food courts in indoor shopping malls shall be limited to carry-out service only; dining at tables or other spaces in food courts is prohibited. Pedestrian areas in indoor shopping malls may remain open only to provide access to retail stores and food service establishments, provided congregation in any indoor areas outside retail stores (including food courts) is prohibited.

6. All businesses and uses permitted to be open under the Governor’s Executive Order 20-06-10-01 or any other State or local Executive Order, shall also comply with:

A. The County Executive’s Executive Order No. 25, and all Orders and guidance from the County Health Officer, including any “Order for Public Safety” issued by the County Health Officer, to the extent such Orders are not inconsistent with this Amended and Restated Executive Order No. 27;

B. All State Executive Orders (as amended), as modified by this Amended and Restated Executive Order No. 27 and local Executive Order No. 25;

C. Any applicable directives from the State Secretary of Health;

D. Applicable social distancing guidance published by the Centers for Disease Control and the Maryland Department of Health; and

E. All applicable Federal, State and local laws.

7. All other provisions of the Governor’s Executive Order No. 20-06-10-01 dated June 10, 2020, shall apply in Anne Arundel County.

8. In addition to the authority of the County Health Officer to order the closure of any business, Restaurant, or Social Club for a violation of any State or local Executive Order or Order for Public Safety, the owner of a business that violates this Amended and Restated Executive Order No. 27 is guilty of a misdemeanor under Governor Hogan’s Executive Order 20-06-10-01 and shall be subject to imprisonment not exceeding one year and a fine not to exceed $5,000, based on the following fine schedule: $500 for a first offense, $1,000 for a second offense, and $5,000 for a third offense.

9. This Executive Order shall take effect as of 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 24, 2020, and shall continue until terminated by subsequent Executive Order or until the local proclamation of emergency expires or is terminated.

10. The Public Information Officer shall immediately disseminate notice of this Executive Order to the appropriate news media and to the general public.

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This Executive Order shall be archived at the Office of Law.

STEUART PITTMAN
County Executive

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

Gregory J. Swain
County Attorney