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STEUART PITTMAN
County Executive

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 55

PROCLAMATION OF CIVIL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, COVID-19, an infectious and contagious respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, was first detected in Anne Arundel County in 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, Maryland Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. proclaimed a state of emergency and a catastrophic health emergency for the entire State of Maryland pursuant to Title 14 of the Public Safety Article of the State Code, due to the impending threat and continuing impact of the contagious disease known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's proclamation was in effect until July 1, 2021, when it was rescinded; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to stop the spread of COVID-19 in Anne Arundel County, the County Executive proclaimed a civil emergency in the County on March 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the civil emergency proclaimed by the County Executive was extended by Bill No. 24-20, and was terminated on June 9, 2021, by Bill No. 55-21; and

WHEREAS, today there continues to be significant community transmission of the COVID-19 virus and its variants; and

WHEREAS, community transmission of the COVID-19 virus and its variants within Anne Arundel County began to increase significantly in September of 2021, and continues to threaten the lives, health, and safety of the citizens of Anne Arundel County; and

WHEREAS, on or about December 27, 2021, Luminis Health reported that it has experienced a 325% increase since December 1, 2021, in the number of patients admitted to its hospitals with COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 within Anne Arundel County has increased dramatically in the last four weeks, necessitating additional restrictive measures to save lives and prevent further exposure to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the transmission of the novel coronavirus in Anne Arundel County is a direct threat to the human health of all citizens of Anne Arundel County; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 poses an immediate and serious threat to public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Anne Arundel County; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a public health catastrophe and constitutes a civil emergency under Article 1, Title 6, of the Anne Arundel County Code, requiring Anne Arundel County to deploy resources and implement the emergency powers of the County Executive to protect the health and safety of its citizens; and

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, do hereby proclaim and order on this 30th day of December, 2021:

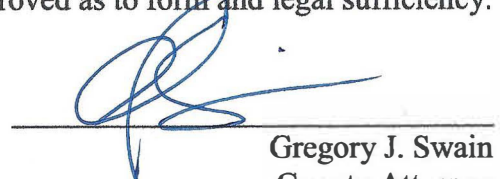
1. That pursuant to § 1-6-102 of the County Code, a civil emergency exists in Arundel County due to the COVID-19 transmission, for the reasons stated herein.
2. All emergency powers of the County Executive under Article 1, Title 6 of the Anne Arundel County Code are hereby enabled.
3. This Executive Order shall take effect as of noon on Friday, December 31, 2021, and shall continue until terminated by a subsequent Executive Order or extended by ordinance of the County Council, or January 7, 2022 at noon, whichever occurs first.
4. The Public Information Officer shall immediately disseminate notice of this Executive Order to the appropriate news media and to the general public.

This Executive Order shall be archived at the Office of Law and remain in existence until altered or terminated by a subsequent Executive Order.



STEUART PITTMAN
County Executive

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:



Gregory J. Swain
County Attorney