

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER #4**

Pursuant to Executive Order # 2 Establishing a State of Emergency in the Town of Dover, Morris County and Pursuant to the State of New Jersey Office of Emergency Management Directive No. 61 as it relates to Coronavirus (COVID-19)

**WHEREAS**, In light of the dangers posed by COVID-19, the Town of Dover established a State of Emergency in the Town of Dover pursuant to Executive Order # 2 issued on March 16, 2020; and

**WHERAS**, Pursuant to applicable law, as recited in Executive Order # 2, which authorizes the promulgation of Orders, Rules, and Regulations, and such Regulations are necessary to meet the various problems, which have or may occur due to such emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, Pursuant to the powers vested by Chapter 251 of the Laws of 1942, as amended and supplemented, J.J.S.A. APP. A: 9-30 et seq.; N.J.S.A. 40:48-1(6); N.J.S.A. 2C:33-1 et seq.; whichever law or laws ex apply, including, the Code of the Town of Dover, a local disaster emergency is declared to exist within the boundaries of the Town of Dover; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order # 2 was approved by the Morris County Office of Emergency Management (OEM); and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a contagious, and at times fatal, respiratory disease caused by the CoV-2 Virus and was declared to be a global pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, The conditions under which a State of Emergency continues to exist with respect to COVID-19 in the Town of Dover Executive Order # 2 continues to exist, the facts and circumstances thereof are adopted herein; and

WHEREAS, to further protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Town of Dover by, among other things, reducing the spread of COVID-19, the Town issued Executive Order # 3, regarding the closing of municipal parks, which was approved by the Morris County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) modified Paragraph 12 of Executive Order # 2 and which is further explained in paragraph 4 of this Order; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Phil Murphy has issued a series of Executive Orders that set forth further restrictions to reduce the spread of COVID-19 infections; and

**WHEREAS**, As of April 9, 2020, the State of New Jersey reports there are 51,027 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 and 1,700 cases of death

**WHEREAS**, As of April 9, 2020, the County of Morris reported 2,645 cases of COVID-19 and 117 deaths; and

WHEREAS, As of April 9, 2020 the Town of Dover has 218 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 4 deaths, which places the town consistently in the top three highest number of infections of all municipalities in Morris County; and

WHEREAS, the death of each and every person is a profound tragedy to us all, but especially when Dover has lost 4 of its own to this worldwide pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 emergency and its impact are likely to extend for an as-yet-undetermined period of time beyond the estimated peak; and

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Dover has invested significant resources in an Educational and Compliance Campaign to inform the public and seek voluntary cooperation with mandates; and

**WHEREAS**, While the majority of businesses, residents, and visitors conduct essential business in Dover in compliance with social distancing mandates, others have been observed acting in a manner that is inconsistent with and threatens to undermine the social mitigation strategies, creating risks to public health; and

**WHEREAS,** the CDC has now recommended that all residents wear cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, particularly in areas of significant community-based transmission; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has stated that such cloth face coverings must fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face, be secured with ties or ear loops, include multiple layers of fabric, allow for breathing without restriction, and be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape; and

**WHEREAS,** the CDD has also stated that cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under the age of 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious. Incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance; and

WHEREAS, <u>In conjunction with our Educational and Compliance Campaign, is imperative the Town Administration take more stringent enforcement measures to limit social contact to flatten the curve for the health, safety, and welfare of the entire community; and</u>

**NOW THEREFORE**, Based upon the foregoing, the OEM Coordinator and the Mayor believe it is necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of the Town to amend Executive Order # 2 in the following manner:

- 1. All Executive Orders of Governor Phil Murphy issued to date are hereby incorporated into this Order and shall have full force and effect; and
- To the extent the Governor's Order allows for the Municipality to exercise its discretion as to the implementation of a specific directive, unless otherwise expressly stated in this Executive Order, the directive of the Governor as drafted in his Order shall be in full force and effect; and
- 3. All orders of the Town of Dover Executive Order #2 hereby remain in full force and effect unless expressly rescinded or modified in this Order or superseded by the laws of the federal government or State of New Jersey including, but not limited to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> App. A:9 40, or by an Order of the Governor; and
- 4. Town of Dover Executive Order # 3 regarding the closure of all apparatuses in our Municipal parks including, but not limited to playgrounds, benches, picnic tables, junglegyms, swing sets, and prohibition of use of organized activities, playing fields, barbeques, picnic areas, and basketball and volleyball courts, remains in full force and effect and is incorporated herein; and
- The Acting Municipal Clerk is hereby expressly authorized and directed to develop plans and procedures to fully implement Governor Murphy's Executive Order # 120 regarding upcoming elections; and
- Paragraph # 6 of the Town of Dover Executive Order # 2 is modified in the following manner: Residents are required to stay home for all non-essential business and are mandated to wear masks when leaving their homes to conduct essential business. All other mandates remain in effect; and
- Paragraph # 9 of the Town of Dover Executive Order # 2 is hereby modified in the following manner: No face-to-face meetings with the public shall be granted until further notice. All other mandates remain in effect; and
- 8. Paragraph # 13 of the Town of Dover Executive Order # 2 is hereby modified in the following manner: By Order of Justice Rabner, the Municipal Court shall be closed through April 26, 2020. All other mandates remain in full force and effect; and
- Paragraph # 16 of the Town of Dover Executive Order # 2 is hereby modified in the following manner: Online payment or mailing a check or money order for payments to the municipality is hereby required. In-person payments are hereby suspended until further notice. All other mandates remain in full force and effect; and
- 10. Paragraph # 19 is hereby modified in the following manner: All parking enforcement in the business district is suspended until further notice; and
- 11. The flag of the United States, the Sate of New Jersey, the County of Morris, and the Town of Dover shall be flown at half-staff at all Town departments, offices, buildings, and parks until further notice, in recognition of all those who have lost their lives and have been affected by COVID-19.

- 12. It shall be the duty of every person or entity in this Municipality or doing business in this Municipality and of the members of the governing body and every official, employee or agent of every body, agency, department, and authority in this Municipality to cooperate in fully in all matters concerning this Executive Order and cooperate fully with Administrative Orders issued pursuant to this Executive Order.
- 13. The Deputy Town Administrator is hereby authorized and empowered to develop and implement procedures to enforce the aforementioned Orders; and
- 14. The Town of Dover Police Department is authorized and empowered to fully enforce, among other things, the Executive Orders of Governor Phil Murphy and the Executive Orders of the Town of Dover, pursuant to the directives of the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey and the Morris County Prosecutor's Office; and
- 15. This Executive Order will have immediate effect and shall remain in effect until revoked or modified by the OEM and the Mayor.

Hereby ordered by:

Emergency Management Coordinator

aulyn Blackman 4-14-20

## MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY:

Because the COVID-19 virus has been deemed a pandemic, we recognize there will be disruption to Town services and access to Town Hall and other public buildings. Notwithstanding, as local government officials, public workers, volunteers and other contracting agencies and personnel, we will do our best to continue to provide essential services for the public good of our Town residents. We regret having to close or limit services normally provided to school children, parents, seniors, disabled persons and those who rely on Town resources. However, our Emergency Management Team will continue to monitor the public health emergency closely and is prepared respond to any contingencies that arise.

The Town will continue to provide residents with public service announcements as necessary using our "Smart911 reverse" call service and will maintain our website and social media with updates as they become available. Please visit our website at:

- https://www.facebook.com/townofdovernj/
- https://www.dover.nj.us

While we rely upon the expertise of federal, state and county officials to help contain this virus, we have faith in our neighbors and fellow citizens to rise to this challenge for the good of our Town in the weeks to come.

In the meantime, be safe and please follow recommended guidance from your healthcare provider.