

**DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY TO COORDINATE RESPONSE
AND PROTECTIVE ACTIONS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19
WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY**

WHEREAS, COVID 19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death by the SARS Co-V-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus previously unidentified in humans which can spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 as a Public Health Pandemic of International Concern on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) has warned of the public health threat posed by COVID-19 within the state of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of North Carolina declared a State of Emergency, based on the public health emergency of COVID-19, on March 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services has confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Harnett County and the Triangle region of North Carolina as of March 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management has activated the NC Emergency Operations Center to manage the health impacts of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Cumberland County Health and Emergency Services departments have organized an Incident Management Team to manage the public health impacts of COVID-19 in Cumberland County; and

WHEREAS, first responders and health care professionals remain integral to ensuring the county is best situated to respond to and mitigate the threat posed by COVID-19 and such first responders and health care resources should have the availability of all necessary personal protective equipment and continue to follow all necessary response protocols; and

WHEREAS, because of the above-described emergency, I have determined that there is an imminent threat of the spread of COVID-19 within Cumberland County and thereby creating a public health emergency which will likely cause serious illness, loss of life, and disruption of essential services and systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Cumberland County under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes and Chapter 5 of the Cumberland County Code of Ordinances, I hereby declare as follows:

Section 1. A State of Emergency is hereby declared within the jurisdiction of Cumberland County, North Carolina, and those municipalities within Cumberland County for which a request is made by the mayor thereof and attached to this Declaration.

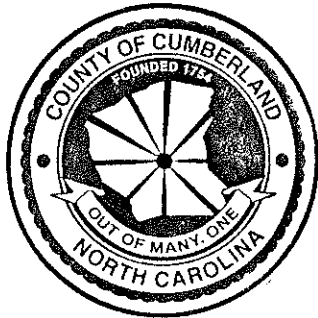
Section 2. All County law enforcement officers, employees, and all other emergency response personnel subject to the authority of the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners shall cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of the Cumberland County Emergency Operations Plan and other relevant County Ordinances.

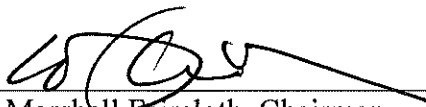
Section 3. The Cumberland County Emergency Operations Center is immediately activated for as long as required.

Section 4. The Cumberland County Manager is authorized to take such protective action as she deems necessary or prudent, including the implementation of prohibitions and restrictions on the County's employees and the public use of the County's facilities, the alterations of the manner in which services are provided by the County, and the procurement of additional resources to promote and protect the public welfare during this public health emergency.

Section 5. This Declaration shall be filed with the Clerk to the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners; distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; and further distributed as necessary to ensure its full implementation.

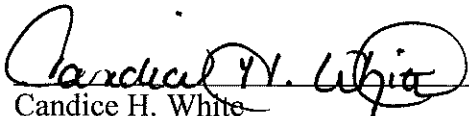
Section 6. This Declaration of Emergency shall become effective immediately upon its announcement Monday, March 16, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as it is announced and shall remain in effect until rescinded.





W. Marshall Faircloth, Chairman
Cumberland County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



Candice H. White
Clerk to the Board