



GERRY CVITANOVICH, M.D.  
Coroner

PROCLAMATION NUMBER 01-2020

State of Emergency-Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721 et seq., confers upon the Governor and the Parish Presidents, the powers to deal with emergencies and disasters, including those caused by fire, flood, earthquake or other natural or manmade causes, in order to ensure that the preparations of this parish will be adequate to respond to such emergencies or disasters and to preserve the lives and property of the people; and

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 29:727(D) empowers the Parish President to declare a local disaster or emergency, which shall continue until the President finds that the threat of danger has been dealt with to the extent that emergency conditions no longer exist; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease known as Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) caused by a novel coronavirus named SARS-CoV-2 that was first detected in China and which has now been detected in more than 100 locations internationally, including in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, Alex M. Azar, II, Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, declared a public health emergency exist and have to existed nationwide since January 27, 2020 as a result of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization publicly characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation No. 25 JBE 2020, which declared a public health emergency to exist in the State of Louisiana as a result of the imminent threat posed to Louisiana citizens by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Parish President Cynthia Lee-Sheng issued Proclamation 01 CLS 2020, which declared a public health emergency to exist in the Parish of Jefferson as a result of the imminent threat posed to Jefferson Parish citizens by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cases of COVID-19 have been reported by thirty-eight states and the District of Columbia; and



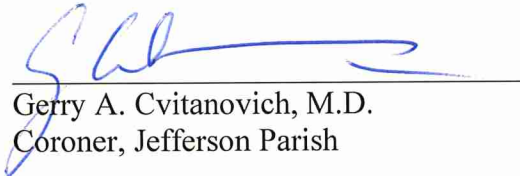
WHEREAS, there are currently 392 positive cases of COVID-19 in the State of Louisiana, 318 are in Southeast Louisiana including 69 in Jefferson Parish; and

WHEREAS, there is reason to believe that COVID-19 may be spread amongst the population by various means of exposure, therefore posing a high probability of widespread exposure and significant risk of substantial future harm to Jefferson Parish citizens; and

WHEREAS, to timely and effectively meet the dangers presented by the emergency, it is necessary to immediately effectuate measures to detect, prevent, prepare for, investigate, respond to or recover from the emergency and generally to preserve the lives and property of the people of Jefferson Parish.

NOW THEREFORE, I, DR. GERRY A. CVITANOVICH, Jefferson Parish Coroner, by virtue of the authority vested by the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and declare that a state of emergency exist within the Jefferson Parish Coroner's Office as a result of the novel coronavirus named SARS-Co-V-2 and the respiratory disease caused by it known as Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), which have created emergency conditions that threaten the ability of the Jefferson Parish Coroner's Office to effectively serve the Parish of Jefferson.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020, at HARVEY, LA.

  
Gerry A. Cvitanovich, M.D.  
Coroner, Jefferson Parish

**ANTHONY BURAS**  
**EX-OFFICIO NOTARY PUBLIC**  
**#157383**  
**STATE OF LOUISIANA**