

**UNION COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA  
EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 2020-01**

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING UNION COUNTY COUNCIL DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN UNION COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA IN RESPONSE TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY THREAT OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (“COVID-19”), EFFECTIVE MARCH 20, 2020**

WHEREAS, the Governor of South Carolina (the “State”), by Executive Order 2020-08 has declared that a state of emergency exists by virtue of the threat posed worldwide by the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (“COVID19”); and

WHEREAS, Union County, South Carolina (the “County”) has taken, and must continue to take, all necessary and appropriate actions available to it in proactively preparing for and promptly responding to the COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, if cases of COVID-19 increase, causing an imminent threat to the citizens of and visitors to Union County, it is necessary for the County to implement emergency planning for anticipated problems and prepare for and implement emergency actions needed to confront the challenges of this public health emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED as an Emergency Ordinance, in accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws Title 4, Article 9 Section 130 and Union County Code of Ordinances, Union County, South Carolina, acting by and through its governing body, the Union County Council (“County Council”) declares that a state of emergency exists, in the County and State, and that the threat therefrom is imminent, and extraordinary emergency measures are deemed necessary and appropriate to cope with the existing and anticipated situation. Union County hereby implements a COVID-19 operations plan and all necessary emergency procedures required thereby, immediately upon enactment of this Emergency Ordinance on March 20, 2020, and until further notice.

1. The County Supervisor and all County staff, in consultation with our emergency management team, are authorized to take any necessary actions and use all available resources for protection of the health, safety and welfare of Union County citizens and visitors including but not limited to the following, each of which is hereby authorized:

a. Utilize all available resources of county government as reasonably necessary and as funds are available to cope with the COVID-19 emergency; and

b. Transfer the direction, personnel, or functions of county departments and agencies or units thereof for purposes of facilitating or performing emergency services, as necessary or desirable; and

c. Contract, requisition and compensate for goods and services from private sources as authorized by the Supervisor, without regard to normal procurement procedures, while still attempting to maintain competitive procurement, only to the degree reasonable and possible, in the sole determination of the County Supervisor; and

d. Compel performance by government officials and employees of the duties and functions assigned in the county emergency plan or the Supervisor's directives hereunder; and

e. Direct evacuations of all or part of the population from any stricken or threatened area within the county if such action is deemed necessary for preservation of life or other disaster mitigation, response or recovery; and

f. Prescribe routes, modes of transportation and destinations in connection with evacuations or relocations, if any; and

g. Control ingress and egress to and from a disaster area, the movement of persons within the area and the occupancy of premises therein; and

h. Make provisions for the availability and use of temporary housing; and

i. Implement curfews as reasonably necessary to preserve and protect life; and

j. Suspend or limit nonemergency activities and prohibit public assemblies of greater than ten (10) persons; and

k. Take any and all other actions deemed necessary by the Supervisor or his appointees, for the preservation of the health, safety and welfare of citizens, residents, and visitors of and to Union County, South Carolina.

2. All orders, ordinances, resolutions, and normal procedures and parts of the Union County Code of Ordinances in conflict herewith, or which would hinder the application and use of emergency procedures pursuant hereto or otherwise, are hereby suspended until the later of the dates in Paragraph 3, hereof. Specifically, but without limitation in any regard, all meetings of public bodies in Union County may be conducted electronically, using all available electronic means, while still being conducted and broadcast in such a manner as to honor the spirit and intent of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act to the greatest degree possible, given the circumstances and the resources available, and specifically with heed to the limitations on meeting size provided herein and by other state and national directives.

3. This Ordinance and its declaration of emergency shall remain in force until, in the Supervisor's determination, aided and assisted by all such assets and sources of information as he should deem necessary, emergency conditions associated with COVID-19 have subsided and the emergency procedures and limitations in Union County are no longer necessary to protect

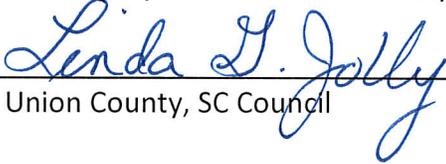
the life and property of our citizens, or upon the sixty-first (61st) day after the effective date of this emergency ordinance, whichever comes first.

Effective the 20th day of March 2020, in the County of Union, South Carolina.  
COUNTY COUNCIL OF UNION COUNTY

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Chairman of County Council, Union County, SC

Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_

Clerk to Union County, SC Council