

PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY NO. 2020-01

**PROCLAMATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY IN LASSEN COUNTY
RELATIVE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS – COVID-19**

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus, COVID-19, causes infectious disease and was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China in December 2019. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath; outcomes have ranged from mild to severe illness, and in some cases death.

WHEREAS, the reported number of cases of COVID-19 has escalated dramatically over a short period of time, and on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern" followed by a declaration on March 11, 2020, characterizing the outbreak as a "pandemic."

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, United States Health and Human Service Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency for the United States to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to COVID-19.

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has determined that the virus presents a serious public health threat.

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2020, Lassen County Public Health opened a Department Operation Center (DOC) for monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic in communication with the federal Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and locally with Banner Lassen Medical Center, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) agencies, and our health care providers to ensure they have the latest up to date CDC guidance on recommended infection prevention.

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California Proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California due to the current and potential impacts caused by the COVID-19 and to combat the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency to respond to COVID-19.

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Lassen County opened a call center to provide callers with information about COVID-19.

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the Lassen County Department of Public Health opened a Joint Information Center to arrange all incident-related public information activities among various local agencies and organizations performing critical emergency information, crisis communications, and public affairs functions.

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Governor of the State of California wrote in a letter to the President of the United States that "We project that roughly 56 percent of our [California] population - 25.5 million people – will be infected with the virus [COVID-19] over an eight week period."

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Lassen County Office of Emergency Services opened an Emergency Operations Center for the purpose of planning, coordination, and asset allocation to respond to COVID-19.

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Governor of the State of California issued Executive Order N-33-20 ordering all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residences except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of the federal critical infrastructure sectors.

WHEREAS, the aforesaid emergency throughout the United States of America, State of California, and Lassen County constitutes an emergency situation and a local emergency as set forth in California Government Code sections 8630.

WHEREAS, this emergency is likely beyond the control, capacity, and resources of the services, personnel, equipment, finances, and facilities of Lassen County, and local resources are unable to cope with the effects of said emergency.

WHEREAS, this emergency necessitates the immediate expenditure of public funds to protect the health, safety and property without complying with competitive bidding and other purchasing, bidding, and procurement requirements.

WHEREAS, Lassen County Code Section 11.14.060 authorizes the Lassen County Sheriff, Director of Emergency Services, and Assistant Director to issue a proclamation of local emergency if the Lassen County Board of Supervisors is not in session.

WHEREAS, this proclamation enables the County to more effectively respond and to obtain vital supplies, equipment, requisition necessary personnel, and issue rules and regulations on matters reasonably related to the protection of life and property as affected by such emergency.

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, the Lassen County Health Officer executed a Declaration of A Local Emergency No. 2020-01 in Lassen County relative to the Novel Coronavirus – Covid-19.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HERBY PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED, that a local emergency exists throughout Lassen County pursuant to Government Code section 8630 and as defined by Government Code section 8558, and shall be deemed to continue to exist subject to review and termination by the Lassen County Board of Supervisors pursuant to Government Code section 8630; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of this county shall be those prescribed by State law including but not limited to Government Code section 8634, County ordinances and resolutions, current Emergency Operations Plan, and pertinent documents.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that a copy of this document proclaiming a local emergency be forwarded to the Governor of the State of California with a request the Governor continue to maintain a State of Emergency for the County of Lassen.

DATE: 3/20/2020



DEAN GROWDON, Sheriff
County of Lassen

DATE: 3-20-2020



SILAS ROJAS, Assistant Director of Emergency Services
County of Lassen