

PROCLAMATION OF THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGARDING A STATE OF EMERGENCY RELATED TO THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK

The Board of Supervisors of Santa Cruz County, Arizona finds:

1. A.R.S. Section 26-311(A) provides that whenever the chairman of the board of supervisors for the unincorporated portion of the county shall deem that an emergency exists due to fire, conflagration, flood, earthquake, explosion, war, bombing, acts of the enemy or any other natural or man-made calamity or disaster or by reason of threats or occurrences of riots, routs, affrays or other acts of civil disobedience which endanger life or property within the unincorporated areas of the county, or portion thereof, the chairman of the board of supervisors, if authorized by ordinance or resolution, may by proclamation declare an emergency or a local emergency to exist.
2. On March 15, 2017, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 2017-02, a Resolution of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors to Establish the Emergency Powers and Authority of the Board of Supervisors and Implementing the Provisions of ARS Section 26-301 and through Resolution No. 2017-02 authorized pursuant to ARS Section 26-311(A) for the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to declare an emergency and during such emergency to govern by proclamation and to impose all necessary regulations to preserve the peace and order of the unincorporated areas of Santa Cruz County.
3. On January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak.
4. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the spread of COVID-19 to constitute a pandemic.
5. On March 11, 2020, the Governor of the State of Arizona, Douglas A. Ducey, declared that a State of Emergency exists in Arizona due to the COVID-19 outbreak.
6. On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States of America, Donald J. Trump, found and proclaimed that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constituted a national emergency.
7. On March 15, 2020, Governor Ducey announced the temporary closure of all schools in Arizona due to the COVID-19.
8. On March 16, 2020, President Trump and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention issued their "Coronavirus Guidelines for America: 15 Days to Slow the Spread" which includes guidance to avoid social gatherings of more than 10 people; avoid eating or drinking at bars or restaurants; avoid discretionary travel and social visits; and listen to and follow the directions of your state and local authorities; and further advises that in states with evidence of community transmission of COVID-19, bars restaurants, food courts, gyms, and other indoor and outdoor venues where groups of people congregate should be closed.
9. In the last several days other Arizona jurisdictions have issued proclamations declaring a local emergency in connection with the COVID-19 outbreak.

10. There is reasonable cause to believe that the spread of COVID-19 can lead to severe respiratory illness, disease complications, and death for Santa Cruz County residents, particularly those with underlying medical conditions and the elderly.
11. Health professionals have identified precautions and interventions that can mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
12. As of the date of this Proclamation, the Santa Cruz County Health Department has confirmed one (1) COVID-19 case in Santa Cruz County.
13. The Board of Supervisors of Santa Cruz County, Arizona has determined that an emergency or local emergency exists within unincorporated Santa Cruz County due to COVID-19.
14. Emergency management measures are required to reduce the severity of the local emergency and mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people and property located in the unincorporated Santa Cruz County; and to pursue and receive available aid.
15. On March 17, 2020, Governor Ducey and the Arizona Department of Health Services released guidance concerning the actions needed and recommended to reduce the mitigate the spread of COVID-19, which includes the closure of bars, restaurants, gyms, and other places of public gathering.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, through the Chairman of the Board, hereby proclaims and declares, pursuant to A.R.S. Section 26-311, an emergency or local emergency to exist in unincorporated Santa Cruz County related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

SECTION 2. The Chairman of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors is authorized and empowered to govern by proclamation, as authorized by A.R.S. Section 26-311, and as provided in Resolution No. 2017-02, A Resolution of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors to Establish the Emergency Powers and Authority of the Board of Supervisors and Implementing the Provisions of A.R.S. Section 26-301 adopted and passed by the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors on March 15, 2017.

SECTION 3. The emergency or local emergency accompanying this Proclamation shall remain in effect until the Board or the Chairman, in consultation with the County Manager and County Health Department Director, issues a proclamation determining that an emergency no longer exists or the Governor of the State of Arizona, Douglas A. Ducey declares the emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak is no longer necessary.

SECTION 4. The Chairman in consultation with the Santa Cruz County Manager and the Santa Cruz County Health Director is hereby authorized and directed to coordinate emergency operations for the County and to take all appropriate actions needed to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 on and within Santa Cruz County.

PROCLAIMED AT 5:50 pm this 20th day of March, 2020.



Bruce Bracker
Chairman, Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors