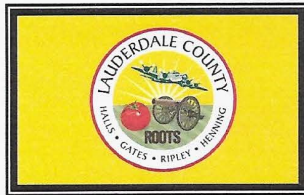


MAURICE GAINES, JR.
County Mayor



WILLIAM DAN DOUGLAS
County Attorney

LAUDERDALE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

100 Court Square
Ripley, Tennessee 38063
Phone (731)635-3500 Fax (731) 635-9682
e-mail: mgaines@lctngov.com

EXECUTIVE ORDER # 1

SUBJECT: DECLARATION OF A STATE OF CIVIL EMERGENCY RELATED TO THE COVID-19 EPIDEMIC

WHEREAS, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness having symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended that all states and territories implement aggressive measures to slow and contain transmission of COVID-19 in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Tennessee Governor Bill Lee issued Executive Order No. 14, "An Order Suspending Provisions of Certain Statutes and Rules in Order to Facilitate the Treatment and Containment of COVID-19"; and

WHEREAS, Tenn. Code Ann. 58-2-101(7) defines "emergency" to mean an occurrence, or threat thereof, whether natural, technological, or manmade that results or may result in substantial injury or harm to the population and further provides that "natural threats may include disease outbreaks and epidemics"; and

WHEREAS, Tenn. Code Ann. 58-8-102(5) defines "emergency" for purposes of declaring a local state of emergency as an occurrence or threat of occurrence, whether natural or manmade, that results in or may result in substantial injury or harm to the population or substantial damage to or loss of property and which results in a declaration of a state of emergency by, among other officials, the governor or the president, and

WHEREAS, both Governor Lee and President Trump have declared states of emergency related to COVID-19. In Executive Order No. 14, Governor Lee declared a state of emergency pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. 58-2-107 "to facilitate the response to COVID-19. On March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared a nationwide emergency to address COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Tenn. Code Ann. 58-8-110 authorizes the mayor of a local government to declare a local state of emergency by executive order consistent with and governed by Tenn. Code Ann. 58-2-110(3)(A)(v), which grants a local government authority to waive the procedures and formalities

otherwise required of the political subdivision by law pertaining to “taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community”, and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 public health emergency will have a direct impact on the County Government operations and employees, as well as the health and safety of the citizens of Lauderdale County; and

WHEREAS, a fundamental responsibility of the Lauderdale County Government is safeguarding the lives of its citizens while also protecting their privacy and personally identifiable information; and

WHEREAS, for the reasons stated above, the COVID-19 public health emergency is a civil emergency within the area of the Local Government;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Maurice Gaines, Mayor of Lauderdale County, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim, direct, and order the following:

1. A State of Civil Emergency is proclaimed within the area of Lauderdale County Government.
2. Lauderdale County Emergency Management Agency is hereby authorized to exercise all powers and authority granted to it by law.
3. As authorized by Tenn. Code Ann. 58-2-110, Lauderdale County Government will:
 - a) As necessary, appropriate and expend funds; make contracts; obtain and distribute equipment, materials, and supplies for emergency management purposes; provide for the health and safety of persons and property, including emergency assistance to the victims of any emergency; and direct and coordinate the development of emergency management plans and programs in accordance with the policies and plans set by the federal and state emergency management agencies;
 - b) As necessary, appoint, employ, remove, or provide, with or without compensation, coordinators, rescue teams, fire and police personnel, and other emergency management workers;
 - c) In addition to the primary emergency operating center, establish, as necessary, one or more secondary emergency operating centers to provide continuity of government and direction and control of emergency operations;
 - d) As necessary, assign and make available for duty the offices and agencies of the County Government, including the employees, property, or equipment relating to health, medical and related services, police, transportation, and similar items or services for emergency operation purposes, as the primary emergency management forces of the County Government for employment within or outside the area of the County Government.
 - e) Request state assistance or, as needed, invoke emergency-related mutual-aid assistance in the event of an emergency affecting another political subdivision.
 - f) It is further understood that the term “gatherings” as defined by the CDC does not apply to the American Red Cross and other blood collection organizations provided social distancing practices are implemented to the maximum extent practical; in the administration of such drives. The collection of blood is an essential service.
4. The Local Government, to the extent necessary to protect the health of citizens related to this emergency, invokes its authority under state law, Tenn. Code Ann. 58-2-110(3), to

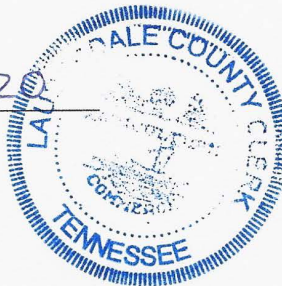
waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of the political subdivision by law pertaining to:

- a) Performance of public services and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community;
- b) Entering into contracts;
- c) Incurring of obligations;
- d) Employment of temporary workers;
- e) Utilization of volunteer workers;
- f) Rental of equipment;
- g) Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials, and facilities;
- h) Appropriation and expenditure of public funds; and
- i) Consider certain commercial vehicles engaged in the distribution of electric power, the supply of fuel, or telecommunications services to residents and businesses to be participating in an emergency relief effort for the purpose of the federal hours-of-service regulations promulgated by the federal motor carrier safety administration.

5. The County Mayor is directed to monitor expenditure of funds by the County Government related to the State of Emergency, prepare requests as appropriate for financial assistance and reimbursement of such expenditures by federal and state governments, and conduct a review of such expenditures following conclusion of the State of Emergency.

DATE

3-24-20



ORDERED, EFFECTIVE AND
ISSUED:

Maurice Gaines, Jr.

Maurice Gaines, Jr
Lauderdale County Mayor