

For Immediate Release:

April 3, 2020

**(Cooper County, MO)** The Cooper County Commissioners, The Cooper County Emergency Management Agency, and The Cooper County Public Health Board of Trustees are working together and agree to support and enforce Governor Parson's "**Stay Home Missouri**" Order. Below is a copy of the Governor's press release with a web link to the full order. The Order will go into effect at 12:01a.m. on Monday, April 6, 2020, until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The agency leaders will continue to plan and discuss to integrate the order within Cooper County to help prevent and protect the citizens of Cooper County from the spread of the COVID-19 virus. We understand that this pandemic is difficult physically, financially and emotionally for all the citizens we serve. We ask for your continued patience in following the "**Stay at Home Missouri**" Order and appreciate the sacrifices you our citizens are making not only for Cooper County and the State of Missouri but our nation as whole.

We would like to express our thanks for the diligence and hard work of our citizens who are "staying home" and for all those essential service workers that are serving our community twenty-four hours a day.

We pray for the continued health and safety of everyone in Cooper County. Thank you very much.

#### **Governor Parson's Press Release**

**JEFFERSON CITY** ☞ Building on Missouri's efforts to control, contain, and combat COVID-19, Governor Mike Parson today issued a statewide "**Stay Home Missouri**" Order effective beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, April 6, 2020, until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, April 24, 2020.

The Order explicitly states that individuals currently residing within the state of Missouri shall avoid leaving their homes or places of residence unless necessary.

"First and foremost, I want everyone to know that I love this state and the people of this state," **Governor Parson** said. "The people of this great state clearly define who we are in Missouri, and as Governor, I have no greater responsibility than to protect the health, well-being, and safety of all Missourians."

In order to protect public health and prevent the further spread of COVID-19, Governor Parson's Order includes specific guidance for staying home, social distancing, businesses and employees, schools, restaurants, firearm sales, and state government buildings.

Among other guidelines, the Order requires the following:

- - Individuals currently residing within the state of Missouri shall avoid leaving their homes or places of residence.
  - All individuals in the state of Missouri shall avoid social gatherings of more than ten (10) people.
  - All public and charter schools must remain closed for the duration of the Order.
  - Any entity that does not employ individuals to perform essential worker functions, as set forth in guidance provided by the federal government, shall adhere to the limitations on social gatherings and social distancing.
  - Any entity that employs individuals to perform essential worker functions, and that is engaged in retail sales to the public, shall limit the number of individuals in any particular retail location as follows:
    - Twenty-five (25) percent or less of the entity's authorized fire or building code occupancy, as set by local authorities, for a retail location with square footage of less than ten thousand square feet (10,000 ft<sup>2</sup>);

- Ten (10) percent or less of the entity's authorized fire or building code occupancy, as set by local authorities, for a retail location with square footage of ten thousand square feet (10,000 ft<sup>2</sup>) or more.

The Order does not prohibit Missourians from accessing essential services, such as grocery stores, gas stations, and banks, or engaging in outdoor recreation, provided that necessary precautions are taken and maintained to reduce the transmission of COVID-19, including observing the social gathering and social distancing requirements set forth in the Order.

The Order shall be observed throughout the state and enforced by all local and state health authorities. Local public health authorities are directed to carry out and enforce the provisions of the Order by any legal means.

"There comes a time when we have to make major sacrifices in our lives. Many of us make sacrifices each and every day, but now more than ever, we must all make sacrifices," **Governor Parson** said. "This is not about any one individual person. This is about our families, friends, neighbors, and the entire state of Missouri. For the sake of all Missourians, be smart, be responsible, and stay home, Missourians."

As of today, Missouri has 2,113 positive COVID-19 cases out of 24,727 tested in a total population of 6 million Missourians. This data shows that 8.5 percent of those tested have been positive.

Of the 8.5 percent of Missouri citizens who have tested positive, approximately 22 percent have required hospitalization. This means the remaining 78 percent are recovering at home or have already recovered. Missouri has at least one positive case in 76 of Missouri's 114 counties. Over half of the total positive cases are in St. Louis region.

Also, as of today, Missouri has 19 COVID-19 related deaths. Based on the state's current data, Missouri's death rate is still below one percent.

To view the full "Stay Home Missouri" Order, please [click here](#). For more information and resources regarding COVID-19, visit the CDC's website at [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus) and the DHSS website at [www.health.mo.gov/coronavirus](http://www.health.mo.gov/coronavirus).