DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY TO
COORDINATE PROTECTIVE ACTIONS TO
PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19
SECOND AMENDMENT
ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020, the Board of Commissioners determined that a State of Emergency as defined in Chapter 7 of the Columbus County Code of Ordinances exists in Columbus County, and now desires to further supplement said Declaration by modifying the terms of the First Amendment to said Declaration dated March 30, 2020. The terms of this supplemental second amendment are in addition to, not in lieu of, the March 24, 2020 Declaration. The terms of this supplemental second amendment are in lieu of the March 30, 2020, First Amendment; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of all persons to slow the spread of Novel Coronavirus, and a unified response is optimal to do so;

WHEREAS, the Declaration of a State of Emergency and this amendment with the restrictions and prohibitions ordered herein are necessary to maintain order and protect public health, safety, and welfare, and to secure property;

WHEREAS, this declaration amendment is in addition to and concurrent with all public health control measures authorized in North Carolina General Statute 166A and the provisions of the March 24, 2020 Declaration of State of Emergency and in lieu of the March 30, 2020 amendment; and

WHEREAS, this declaration amendment shall control all unincorporated areas of Columbus County.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes and Chapter 7 of the Columbus County Code of Ordinances:

Section 1. All public playgrounds, public playground equipment and exercise stations, public team sport facilities, public golf courses, and public gardens are hereby ordered to be closed and not used.

Section 2. The terms set forth in the April 23, 2020 Executive Order 135 for the State of North Carolina are hereby incorporated by reference into this declaration amendment and the businesses and facilities listed therein are hereby ordered to cease operations and close in compliance with the terms of that Executive Order.

Section 3. For the purposes of this declaration amendment, the following businesses shall be subject to the same restrictions as non-essential retail as defined in the North Carolina Executive Order 121 and shall close their facilities to the public. Those businesses are campgrounds, hotels, motels, and short-term lodging except as allowed by a governmental request to assist with the emergency response to Novel Coronavirus or to provide lodging in support of the supply and distribution of COVID-19 essential Businesses and Operations or in support of our county’s COVID-19 emergency response and practices utilized to fight the virus or its spread. Extended stay hotels and
campgrounds may continue to offer lodging for terms of no less than 28 days to persons who are presently on the premises but shall not enter into new leases or rentals. Campgrounds that have a written designation as an essential business from the North Carolina Department of Revenue are excluded from this section but must restrict group activities, group gatherings, and follow social distancing guidelines set forth by the CDC.

Section 4. All public boat ramps will be controlled by the North Carolina State Parks, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, or municipalities in which they are located.

Section 5. Pursuant to Section 13, Part 2, Chapter 7 of the Columbus County Code of Ordinances any person violating any prohibition or restriction imposed by proclamation during a State of Emergency shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable upon conviction by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars ($50.00) or imprisonment not exceeding 30 days, as provided by G.S. 14-4.

Section 6. The County will be under a curfew from 10 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. except for healthcare emergencies, healthcare workers, emergency first responders, travel to or from work, or assistance with the emergency response to Novel Coronavirus.

Section 7. I hereby order this declaration amendment: (a) to be distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) to be filed with Clerk to the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County and (c) to be distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

Section 8. I hereby order all county law enforcement officers, employees and all emergency management personnel to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the additional provisions of the county emergency ordinances, which are set forth herein.

Section 9. This declaration shall take effect on May 1, 2020, at 12:00 a.m. and shall remain in effect until May 8, 2020, unless modified or rescinded prior to said date.

DECLARED this the 30th day of April, 2020, at 12:00 P.M.

P. Edwin Russ,
Chairman of the Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:
June Hall, Clerk to the
Columbus County Board of Commissioners