



## **PRECAUTIONARY DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

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### **BY THE CHAIRMAN:**

**WHEREAS:** Camden County, Georgia is experiencing an event of critical significance due to the World Health Organization declaring COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and

**WHEREAS:** a Federal Public Health Emergency was declared on March 13, 2020 and subsequently the State of Georgia declared a Public Health Emergency on March 14, 2020; and

**WHEREAS:** Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

**WHEREAS:** The CDC currently recommends community preparedness and everyday prevention measures be taken by all individuals and families in the United States, including voluntary home isolation when individuals are sick with respiratory symptoms, as well as social distancing.

**WHEREAS:** The CDC currently recommends mitigation measures for communities experiencing an outbreak including staying at home when sick, keeping away from others who are sick, limiting face-to-face contact with others as much as possible, consulting with your healthcare provider if individuals or members of a household are at high risk for COVID-19 complications, wearing a facemask if advised to do so by a healthcare provider or by a public health official, staying home when a household member is sick with respiratory disease symptoms if instructed to do so by public health officials or a health care provider, and limiting public gatherings to fewer than fifty (50) persons; and

**WHEREAS:** there exists the potential for certain public health emergency circumstances requiring extraordinary and immediate proactive measures for the protection of the health and safety of the citizens of the County of Camden; and

**WHEREAS:** a Precautionary Declaration of Public Health Emergency is necessary to allow local agencies to thoroughly prepare for any eventuality related to public health needs and deploy additional resources to assist if necessary; and to activate the Emergency Operations Center under this authority as the primary Incident Command Center, under direction of the Camden County Emergency Management Agency Director

**ORDERED:** The Chairman of the Board of Commissioners shall exercise, for such periods as the State of Emergency exists, these emergency powers and to perform and exercise such powers and duties as may be necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the public. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-27 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT and Official Code of Camden County Chapter 22: CIVIL EMERGENCIES. **This PRECAUTIONARY PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY DECLARATION shall remain in effect until April 15, 2020.**

\_\_\_\_\_ ; this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020

By:

  
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James H. Starline, Chairman

Attest:

  
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Kathryn A. Bishop, County Clerk