

IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY JUDGE OF PULASKI COUNTY, ARKANSAS

ORDER NO. _____

**IN THE MATTER OF PULASKI COUNTY'S
CONTINUING RESPONSE TO COVID-19
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

EXECUTIVE ORDER

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, an Executive Order was entered restricting public access to the Pulaski County Administration Building, Courthouse, Regional Building (Bale Building), Prosecutor's Office, and District Court/Juvenile Justice Complex.

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, an Executive Order was entered directing the operations and conduct of departments of Pulaski County reporting to the office of County Judge, and strongly encouraging the adoption of those protective measures by other elected officials supervising the operation of county departments and personnel.

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020, an Executive Order was entered consolidating the two (2) Executive Orders and extending the County's response to the public health emergency through April 17, 2020.

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2020, an Executive Order was entered continuing the consolidating Executive Order of March 27, 2020 and extending the County's response to the public health emergency through May 3, 2020.

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2020, the April 17, 2020 Executive Order was extended to apply through May 17, 2020 and required the additional precautions that all persons entering the identified Pulaski County facilities wear protective masks and have a temperature of less than 100.4° F.

WHEREAS, the pandemic novel virus COVID-19 has continued its spread across the nation, including in Arkansas and Pulaski County.

WHEREAS, continued precautions are necessary and required to protect the health of the public, as well as, county employees and personnel in County facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barry Hyde, as Pulaski County Judge, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Arkansas Constitution and laws of the State of Arkansas, as chief executive of Pulaski County, promulgate the following Executive Order in continued response to the pandemic novel virus COVID-19, effective May 18, 2020:

The Executive Order entered on April 30, 2020 in response to the continued public health emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19 shall be amended as follows: All supervisors of
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personnel paid by Pulaski County shall verify that all employees working remotely are doing so productively; if so, the supervisors are encouraged to allow said employees to continue working remotely in order to maintain a reduced presence in Pulaski County facilities and in the interest of preserving the health of the public and these employees. If it is determined that an employee is unable to work remotely for whatever reason or the employee is simply not effective or productive while working remotely, the county-paid personnel shall be required to report to work at their physical place of employment on the effective date of this order. It is incumbent upon the elected official and/or supervisor to determine and implement safe office practices and procedures, including proper social distancing of employees, cleaning, etc. If safe workplace social distancing cannot be achieved, supervisors are responsible for implementing a modified staffing schedule including mandatory rolling, temporary, unpaid leave of absences (otherwise known as a rolling furlough). Each employee found to be unable or unproductive at working remotely shall be notified by their supervisor that they are being placed on a rolling furlough effective beginning May 18, 2020. It shall remain the discretion of each supervisor, director or elected official on how to implement the modified staffing schedule, accompanied by the rolling furlough, in a manner that ensures that employees are working productively, while also adhering to the precautions mandated by this Executive Order, or the Arkansas Department of Health. This order does not impede an eligible employee from properly requesting emergency paid sick leave as provided under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, expanded FMLA leave as provided under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act or regular FMLA. All such requests should follow normal protocol with employee notification of their direct supervisor and/or Human Resources.

This Order shall be interpreted and applied in the broadest possible manner; however, it is recognized that each elected official assigned county-paid personnel is independently elected, and responsible for the operations of their office, supervision of their employees, and determinations of whether employees are performing the duties for which they are being paid.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

**BARRY HYDE, PULASKI COUNTY
JUDGE/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**