

IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY JUDGE OF PULASKI COUNTY, ARKANSAS ORDER NO. 2020-131

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 consolidated Executive Order and 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 apply through May 17, 2020 and required the additional precautions that all persons entering the identified Pulaski County facilities wear protective masks and to have a temperature of less than 100.4° F.
- WHEREAS, on May 15, 2020, the April 30, 2020 Executive Order was amended and extended. The amendment required all supervisors of personnel paid by Pulaski County to verify employee productivity, returning personnel unable to work from home or unproductive in their work from home to their office or duty station, while also maintaining required social distancing, temperature taking, and the wearing of facemask. If the required distancing could not be accomplished in the available space, supervisors were responsible to implement modified staffing schedules, including mandatory rolling furloughs as necessary. On May 15, 2020, the Executive Orders, as amended, were extended through May 31, 2020.
- 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 June 1, 2020:

The May 15, 2020 Executive Orders, and all preceding Orders as amended, shall continue in effect through June 14, 2020.

In summary, the following conditions and requirements remain in effect:

All county-paid personnel should remain working remotely to the extent that their supervisor determines that they are productive and effective in their remote work. If county-paid personnel are unable to work remotely or are ineffective or unproductive in their remote work, then they are to report to their place of work on a schedule as determined by their supervisor. Such staffing schedules may be modified and implemented to establish safe office practices and procedures, including, but not limited to, proper work station distancing. Alternative staffing schedules may include mandatory rolling furloughs.

The Pulaski County Administration Building, Courthouse, Regional Building, Prosecutor's Office, and District Court/Juvenile Justice Complex remain in operation with access restricted to personnel assigned to or conducting business in each building, and to the public conducting emergency business in county facilities or provided access on request of the courts. County services and county-supported services remain available to the public. The manner of delivery of those services, by the respective officers and employees, shall be accomplished in a manner that limits public exposure to county personnel and facilities to the necessary minimum. Pulaski County continues to encourage the public to conduct all business with the County and courts digitally, by phone, email, online or video conference, and only if such digitally-conducted businesses is impossible or infeasible should it be conducted in-person. Prior to entry, all persons are subject to temperature checks and will be refused entry if their temperature is 100.4° F or higher.

Social distancing is mandatory in all environments. There shall be no congregations of people in county facilities, unless necessary to conduct essential functions, and there shall be no congregations of ten (10) or more people outside or in unconfined spaced on any County property. All persons entering the identified county facilities are required to wear masks, and only employees may remove their masks once alone, in their assigned office, behind a closed door. All county-paid personnel are required to exercise heightened care in personal hygiene, including, but not limited to, frequent handwashing and use of sanitizer.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

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BARRY HYDE, PULASKI COUNTY
JUDGE/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER