

PROCLAMATION DECLARING STATE OF EMERGENCY
DECEMBER 19, 2020

WHEREAS, Chapter 14 of the Stillwater City Code and Titles 21 and 63 of Oklahoma Statutes empowers the Mayor of the City of Stillwater to proclaim a civil emergency when a natural disaster, which results in the death or injury of persons to such an extent that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the City; and

WHEREAS, the incidence of "community spread" of COVID-19 within the City of Stillwater remained consistent through June 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Governor J. Kevin Stitt's May 30 2020 Executive Order 2020-20 and June 12, 2020 Amended Executive Order 2020-20 the City of Stillwater allowed previously declared emergency orders to expire and adopted State requirements set forth in the "Phase III" Open Up Recover Safely ("OURS") Plan (Proclamation Declaring State of Emergency, June 1, 2020 Amendment); and

WHEREAS, since that date, the incidence of positive COVID-19 tests in Stillwater increased from 22 cases on June 8, 2020 to 3,953 on December 18, 2020, and twelve deaths; and

WHEREAS, there are now 359 active COVID-19 cases in Stillwater, 558 in Payne County, and 32,065 state wide; and

WHEREAS, the Payne County Health Department reports that contact tracing has linked much of the current spread to congregation of persons in bars, restaurants and unorganized gatherings wherein those attending did not exercise social and physical distancing or wear face coverings; and

WHEREAS, this latest surge in new cases and hospitalizations has placed an undue strain on the ability of Stillwater Medical Center and other Stillwater health care providers to address the needs of patients with COVID-19 as well as other medical conditions; and

WHEREAS, the availability of medical care outside of Stillwater is also reaching critical levels, especially in the Oklahoma City and Tulsa metropolitan areas; and

WHEREAS, the existence of an ongoing public health emergency necessitates the issuance of a revised emergency proclamation to address specific concerns of the City of Stillwater and to more completely protect the health and safety of its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE STILLWATER CITY CODE AND STATE LAW, I, WILLIAM H. JOYCE, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF STILLWATER, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM AND DECLARE:

SECTION ONE: A state of emergency exists within the corporate limits of the City of Stillwater, Payne County, Oklahoma.

SECTION TWO: This proclamation supersedes all previously issued Proclamations Declaring State of Emergency and amendments thereto, except the August 20, 2020 Proclamation authorizing the use of public ways for certain activities, which has been extended by a separate action. This proclamation shall become effective on December 19, 2020 at 10:59 PM CST.

SECTION THREE: The aforementioned conditions continue to constitute an ongoing threat to the safety and welfare of the city necessitating additional restrictions and creating a civil emergency

situation within the meaning of Chapter 14 of the Stillwater City Code and Titles 21 and 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

SECTION FOUR: The following restrictions are hereby established on the effective date of this order:

A. Bars.

Beginning 10:59 PM CST December 19, 2020, bars, bar service areas in restaurants, nightclubs and dancehalls that serve alcoholic beverages (collectively "bar" or "bars") may remain open for "table only" and "carry-out/curbside" service provided these procedures and requirements are followed during hours of operation. These measures are mandatory and are the minimum standards that such businesses must meet during this declared emergency in the City of Stillwater. **These procedures and requirements supersede state-mandated and industry rules and regulations unless the state-mandated or industry rule or regulation imposes a stricter standard of care or practice.**

Tables and chairs shall be positioned in a manner to permit a minimum of six feet of separation between groups of bar patrons. Excess tables and chairs shall be removed from the bar or shall remain unoccupied if located within the six foot radius and cannot be removed. If the bar includes booths, tables must be positioned in a manner that will permit a minimum of six feet of separation from the nearest booth as well. Provided, however, that these separation standards shall not apply if the tables and/or booths are separated by properly sanitized glass or Plexiglas.

The maximum occupancy of a bar shall be the lesser of: fifty percent (50%) of the posted fire marshal's load capacity or the maximum number of patrons that can be seated in designated areas utilizing the six foot social and physical distancing standards as set forth in the preceding paragraph.

Patrons shall not be seated in any booth that adjoins another unless such booths are separated by properly sanitized glass or Plexiglas. Absent such protective measures, the adjoining booth shall remain empty.

No more than ten persons may be seated at a single table or booth.

Patrons shall not be allowed to stand next to occupied tables or at the bar except as provided herein.

Dance floors and other areas where bar patrons stand shall be closed. However, tables and seating may be relocated to these areas to achieve social and physical distancing as provided herein.

Patrons shall only consume beverages or food while seated at a table or the bar.

The bar shall designate an area or areas where patrons can safely order/pick-up drinks and make payment while maintaining six feet of physical separation from other patrons or groups.

Outdoor seating areas are subject to the above requirements.

Waiting areas (indoor and outdoor) shall be configured and marked to facilitate six feet of separation between groups of patrons.

Bar patrons shall wear face coverings at all times while indoors or outdoors in any designated bar table service area. Patrons may remove face coverings only while seated at a table to consume beverages or food.

Employees and all other persons involved in the operation of the bar, shall wear face coverings at all times while on the bar premises. For purposes of this order, the term employees shall include stage performers and musicians, disc jockeys, and any other person hired by the bar for any purpose related to the daily business operation.

B. Restaurants.

Beginning 10:59 PM CST December 19, 2020, restaurants and food service establishments providing seating areas for on-premises consumption of food and beverages may remain open provided these procedures and requirements are followed during hours of operation. These measures are mandatory and are the minimum standards that such businesses must meet during this declared emergency in the City of Stillwater. **These procedures and requirements supersede state-mandated and industry rules and regulations unless the state-mandated or industry rule or regulation imposes a stricter standard of care or practice.**

Tables and chairs shall be positioned in a manner to permit a minimum of six feet of separation between groups of bar patrons. Excess tables and chairs shall be removed from the bar or shall remain unoccupied if located within the six foot radius and cannot be removed. If the bar includes booths, tables must be positioned in a manner that will permit a minimum of six feet of separation from the nearest booth as well. Provided, however, that these separation standards shall not apply if the tables and/or booths are separated by properly sanitized glass or Plexiglas.

Patrons shall not be seated in any booth that adjoins another unless such booths are separated by properly sanitized glass or Plexiglas. Absent such protective measures, the adjoining booth shall remain empty.

No more than ten persons may be seated at a single table or booth.

Patrons shall not be allowed to stand next to occupied tables.

Outdoor seating areas are subject to the above requirements.

Waiting areas (indoor and outdoor) shall be configured and marked to facilitate six feet of separation between groups of patrons.

Patrons shall wear face coverings at all times while indoors or outdoors in any designated table service area. Patrons may remove face coverings only while seated at a table to consume beverages or food.

Employees and all other persons involved in the operation of the restaurant or food service provider shall wear face coverings at all times while on the restaurant or food service premises. This includes all employees providing carry-out, curbside, and drive-through service.

C. Retail Businesses.

With the onset of the holiday shopping season, it is important that retail establishments continue efforts to protect customers and employees from exposure to COVID-19. Such establishments are encouraged to

continue practices such as providing face coverings to customers and employees who do not have them and making hand sanitizer and wipes available to those persons. It is also recommended that measures which assist social distancing in stores (floor markings, signs) and protective barriers remain in place. Retail businesses should consider adjusting hours of operation to minimize crowding in stores.

D. Churches and other religious institutions are strongly encouraged to enforce social and physical distancing practices and require participants and guests to wear face coverings during worship services and all other organized events. It is recommended that these institutions consider offering additional worship service opportunities if facilities are not large enough to accommodate participants and guests under CDC recommended distancing standards.

E. Except for end-of-life situations, visitors are prohibited from entering and visiting patients and residents at nursing homes, long-term care facilities, and retirement homes.

F. Closure of City Hall and Facilities. The Main Lobby and other public access areas of the First Floor of City Hall shall remain open. Offices and other non-public access areas of the First Floor and the entire Second Floor of City Hall shall remain closed. Development Services shall continue to maintain a service window in the Police Department Lobby for permits and other services provided by said department. The City Manager and City Attorney shall develop procedures for public access to all other Second Floor operations and services. The City Manager shall continue to offer electronic and telephone options for all transactions normally conducted at City Hall and citizens are encouraged to utilize these. Persons entering City Hall and the Police Department Lobby shall be required to wear face coverings. The City Manager shall make face coverings available to those entering the building that do not have one.

The Stillwater Community Center and Stillwater Armory shall remain open to the public. Meeting Rooms at the Community Center shall be limited to fifty (50) occupants unless the maximum capacity of the room cannot maintain that number and permit six (6) feet of separation between occupants, in which case, the maximum capacity shall be less. The maximum capacity of the Armory shall be fifty (50) persons. Persons entering the Community Center or Armory shall wear face coverings. The City Manager shall make face coverings available to those entering the building that do not have one.

The Stillwater Public Library shall remain open. The maximum occupancy of the Main Library shall be limited to fifty (50) persons including staff. The Library Director shall determine which areas of the Main Library are open to public access. Meeting Rooms shall be limited to fifty (50) occupants unless the maximum capacity of the room cannot maintain that number and permit six (6) feet of separation between occupants, in which case, the maximum capacity shall be less. Persons entering the Library shall wear face coverings. The Library Director shall make face coverings available to those entering the building that do not have one.

The Stillwater Senior Center shall remain closed until further notice.

Project Heart will continue delivery and drive-through services until further notice.

The Swimming Pool at Couch Park shall remain closed.

All Stillwater City Park facilities shall remain open. The City Manager shall post notices that said facilities are not sanitized on a daily basis and that users do so at their own risk. SASA and other league sponsors shall adopt and enforce appropriate social distancing protocols for all activities held at City-owned sports fields until further notice.

SECTION FIVE: Penalty. In accordance with Section 14-63, Stillwater City Code, violation of

this order is a Class "C" offense.


SECTION SIX: This amendment shall expire at 11:59 PM CST February 28, 2021 unless and until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing.

PROCLAIMED THIS 19th day of December 2020.



WILLIAM H. JOYCE, MAYOR

(SEAL)
ATTEST:



TERESA KADAVY, CITY CLERK Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY THIS 19th day of December 2020



JOHN E. DORMAN, CITY ATTORNEY