

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Town of Mount Vernon had a Special Called Council Meeting, Saturday, April 18, 2020 at 10:00 AM regarding a proposed ordinance to discuss A “Stay at home” Public Safety Curfew Ordinance During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. A summary of ordinance 04-18-20 is listed below:

### **SECTION 1: STAY AT HOME ORDER**

The Order of the State Health Officer Suspending Certain Public Gatherings Due to Risk of Infection by COVID-19, as amended April 3, 2020, and applicable statewide (the “Statewide Order”), is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth herein. A copy of said Statewide Order is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

### **SECTION 2: PUBLIC SAFETY CURFEW**

- a. It is hereby ordered that a Public Safety Curfew is imposed in the Town of Mt. Vernon. During the curfew, all persons shall remain in their places of residence and shall not be or remain in public places, except as further provided herein.
- b. Subject to the exceptions further provided in subsections (c) and (d) of this Section 2, all travel, including, without limitation, travel on foot, bicycle, scooter, motorcycle, automobile, or public transit is prohibited. Interstate commerce is not governed by this ordinance.
- c. For the hours of 10:00 p.m. through 5:00 a.m., the curfew shall not apply to:
  1. Public safety workers, such as police, fire, and emergency service providers, including but not limited to law enforcement, fire and rescue, and dispatchers.
  2. Public health workers, employees of hospitals, health care facilities, assisted living facilities, travel to and from mortuaries, and security services.
  3. Employees of utilities, cable, telecommunications, internet companies and their contractors engaged in activities necessary to maintain or restore services.
  4. Government employees or contractors necessary to maintain or restore infrastructure.
  5. Employees of an Industry Vital to the National Economy (as defined herein).
  6. Persons seeking emergency medical treatment.
  7. Credentialed members of the media and necessary support staff.
  8. Persons traveling through the Town from one location outside the Town to another location outside the Town, returning to their Town residences from outside the Town, or traveling to their Town residences from inside the Town.
  9. Persons experiencing homelessness.
- d. From 5:00 a.m. through 10:00 p.m., the curfew shall not apply to persons engaged in essential activities or traveling to or working at an essential business or operation, as set forth in the attached Statewide Order.
- e. All activities conducted and businesses operated must comply with Social Distancing and CDC Protocols (as defined herein), except when providing healthcare, emergency, and other similar services.

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### **SECTION 3: PROTECTIVE FACE COVERS**

All “essential retailers,” as defined in paragraph 2 of the Statewide Order, including grocery stores, pharmacies, convenient stores, hardware stores, and any other essential retailer that is open to the public, shall require that all employees and all customers wear protective face covers including bandana/cottage industry masks when inside the retail premises. (Medical certified masks should be avoided unless ordered by a physician.)

Persons away from their place of residence shall wear protective face covers outside when in groups of two or more except when exercising. Groups of 10 or more are not allowed at anytime. Social distancing protocols will apply when away from the place of residence.

### **SECTION 4: DEFINITIONS**

- a. Industry Vital to the National Economy: A business that provides goods or services necessary to the national defense, air transport, or public health and safety.
- b. Social Distancing and CDC Protocols: Maintaining a consistent distance of at least six (6) feet between individuals, frequently washing hands with soap and water for at least twenty (20) seconds or using hand sanitizer, covering coughs and sneezes (into the sleeve or elbow, not hands), regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces, and not shaking hands. For businesses, assuring to the maximum extent feasible that persons with symptoms of or exposure to COVID-19 do not report for or remain at work. Protocols include such other and different guidelines issued by the CDC and posted conspicuously on the Mobile County Health Department website.

### **SECTION 5: PENALTIES AND FINES**

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation within the corporate limits of the Town to violate this ordinance. Any violation shall be subject to a fine of no less than \$50 and no more than \$500 or ninety (90) days in jail, or both, at the discretion of the municipal judge.

### **SECTION 6: EFFECT ON EXISTING ORDINANCES**

To the extent that this ordinance is in conflict with other ordinances of the Town, this ordinance shall supersede the others until this ordinance is amended or repealed.

### **SECTION 7: SEVERABILITY**

If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this ordinance or any application of it to any person, structure, or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of this ordinance.

### **SECTION 8: EFFECTIVE DATE**

This ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption as provided by law and shall remain in effect through and until the expiration or termination of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency declared by the Governor of the State of Alabama.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MT. VERNON, ALABAMA, on this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020.**