



901 Pearl Street  
Franklinton, Louisiana 70438

OFFICE (985) 839-7825  
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**RICHARD N. THOMAS JR**  
**PARISH PRESIDENT**  
**PROCLAMATION 03-13-2020**

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***STATE OF EMERGENCY- CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID19)***

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- WHEREAS** the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, confers upon the Parish President of the Parish of Washington emergency powers to deal with emergencies and disasters, including those caused by fire, flood, earthquake or other natural or manmade causes, in order to ensure that preparations of this State will be adequate to deal with such emergencies or disasters and to preserve the lives and property of the people of the Parish of Washington;
- WHEREAS** when the Parish President determines that a disaster or emergency has occurred, or the threat thereof is imminent, La. R.S. 29:724(8)(1) empowers the Parish President to declare a state of emergency by executive order or proclamation, or both;
- WHEREAS** the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease known as Coronavirus 19 that was first detected in China which has been detected in more than 100 locations internationally including the United States; and
- WHEREAS** on January 31, 2020, Alex M. Azar, II, Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, declared a public health emergency to exist and to have existed nationwide since January 27, 2020 as a result of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus; and
- WHEREAS** on March 11, 2020, The World Health Organization publicly characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and
- WHEREAS** on March 11, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation No. 25 JBE 2020, which declared a public health emergency to exist in the State of Louisiana as a result of the imminent threat posed to Louisiana citizens by COVID-19; and
- WHEREAS** of the thirty-three current presumed positive cases of COVID-19 in the State of Louisiana, twelve are residents of Southeast Louisiana; and
- WHEREAS** to timely and effectively meet the dangers presented by the emergency, it is necessary to immediately effectuate measures to detect, prevent, prepare for, investigate, respond to, or recover from the emergency, and generally to preserve the lives and property of the people of the Parish of Washington;



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**NOW THEREFORE, I, Richard N. Thomas, JR, Parish President of the Parish of Washington, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws of the Parish of Washington and the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:**

**SECTION 1:** Pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721 *et seq.*, a state of emergency is hereby declared to exist parish wide as a result of the novel coronavirus COVID-19, which has created emergency conditions that threaten the lives and property of the citizens of Washington Parish.

**SECTION 2:** The Director of Washington Parish Government's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness is hereby authorized to undertake any activity authorized by law which she deems appropriate in response to this declaration

**SECTION 3:** All departments, commissions boards, agencies and officers of the State, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate in actions the State may take in response to the effects of this emergency.

**SECTION 4:** This order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect from Friday, March 13, 2020 until terminated.

  
Parish President

# Washington Parish Recording Page

Johnny D. Crain, Jr.  
Clerk of Court  
Washington Parish Courthouse  
P.O. Box 607  
Franklinton, LA 70438  
(985) 839-4663

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### Recorded Information

I hereby certify that the attached document was filed for registry and recorded in the Clerk of Court's office for Washington Parish, Louisiana.

On (Recorded Date) : 03/13/2020

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JOHNNY D. CRAIN, JR.  
Parish of Washington  
I certify that this is a true copy of the attached  
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Recorded 03/13/2020 at 2:37:00  
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