

## **Local Emergency Order**

**WHEREAS**, beginning in late 2019, the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, SARS-CoV-2, emerged causing a novel coronavirus disease, COVID-19, which has now become a worldwide pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, pursuant to my authority under the Gwinnett County Emergency Management Ordinance as Chairman of the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners, I signed a Declaration of Local Emergency activating certain emergency powers in order to allow the County to quickly and appropriately respond to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in disruptions to resident and community affairs as well as changes to how governmental services are provided; and

**WHEREAS**, Gwinnett County's businesses, including thousands of small businesses, have also been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic through business closures and reduction of hours; and

**WHEREAS**, the Gwinnett County Occupation Tax Ordinance and the Alcoholic Beverages Ordinance have upcoming and reoccurring deadlines which need to be extended during this local, state, and national emergency so that businesses have the ability to fully comply; and

**WHEREAS**, the temporary suspension of certain provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Ordinance will assist local businesses in responding to and coping with the COVID-19 Emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Gwinnett County's Emergency Management Ordinance and pursuant to my March 16 Declaration of Local Emergency, the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners has the ability to temporarily suspend any ordinance, resolution, order, rule or regulation of the County, if strict compliance with such ordinance, resolution, order, rule or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and

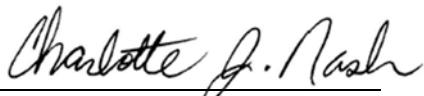
**WHEREAS**, I believe that is in the best interest of Gwinnett County, its residents, and its businesses to temporarily suspend certain provisions of the Occupation Tax Ordinance and the Alcoholic Beverages Ordinance as set forth below in order to assist local businesses and residents in coping with the COVID-19 Emergency;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chairman of the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners by local and state law;

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

- (1) That the March 31, 2020 deadline for Occupation Tax Certificate renewals shall be extended to July 1, 2020. Any provisions of Gwinnett County's Occupation Tax in conflict with the extension granted herein are hereby temporarily suspended. All other provisions of the Occupation Tax Ordinance remain in full force and in effect.
- (2) That the reporting and payment deadlines for excise taxes on the sale of alcoholic beverages as set forth in Section 6-257 of the Alcoholic Beverages Ordinance for March, April, and May shall be extended to the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) day of September 2020. This extension does not alter the deadlines for reporting and payment requirements for any other month. Any provisions of the Gwinnett County Alcoholic Beverages Ordinance in conflict with the extension granted herein are hereby temporarily suspended.
- (3) That any provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Ordinance prohibiting an establishment licensed to sell beer and wine on premises from selling unopened bottles of beer and wine for take-out consumption off premises shall be temporarily suspended for the duration of the COVID-19 Local Emergency. It is the intent of this section of the Order that any establishment licensed to sell beer and wine shall be authorized to sell unopened bottles of such beverages for take-out consumption off premises through the duration of the declared Local Emergency, including any extension thereof.
- (4) All provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Ordinance not in conflict with this Order shall remain in full force and effect.

This 19th day of March 2020.



Charlotte J. Nash, Chairman  
Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners