

Northwest Arctic Borough

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EXTENDED THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2020

PROCLAMATION OF ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY ORDER AMENDED ORDER EO-05 IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

ISSUED BY THE MAYOR OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH PURSUANT TO NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH CODE 12.16.060.

The COVID-19 pandemic has generated a public health emergency that threatens to overwhelm our health system, endangering the lives and wellbeing of our residents. We can take steps to slow and contain the threat, but those steps require coordinated community action. It is up to each and every Borough resident to follow this order, village mandates, State Health Mandates, and CDC guidance to keep our region safe. Violating these requirements will endanger lives. This order is put forward to preserve the health and safety of our region while ensuring that vital goods and services continue to be available.

I HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL 10:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2020, AND SHALL SUPERSEDE ALL CONFLICTING LAWS, EXCEPT THE CITY OF KOTZEBUE'S, DURING THIS EMERGENCY UNLESS OTHERWISE PROHIBITED BY LAW OR CHARTER. THE BOROUGH'S AREAWIDE JURISDICTION FOR EMERGENCY MANDATES DOES NOT INCLUDE KOTZEBUE (NABC 1.08.010(B)(6)). RESIDENTS MUST FOLLOW THE CITY'S CURRENT EMERGENCY ORDER FOR KOTZEBUE.

- Hunker Down. Everyone currently in the Northwest Arctic Borough must stay at home as much
 as possible, except to work in certain critical jobs identified in NWAB EO-02; to buy, sell, or deliver
 necessary groceries or other important goods; to receive or provide necessary health care; and to
 conduct necessary subsistence activities while maintaining social distancing requirements. On
 the limited occasions when individuals leave home, they must maintain social distancing of at
 least six feet from any person outside their household. A Borough-wide curfew will be in place
 from 12:01 A.M. until 6:00 A.M. Only those reporting from certain critical jobs will be exempt.
 - Individuals experiencing homelessness are exempt from this Section, but are strongly
 urged to obtain shelter, and entities are strongly urged to make such shelter available as
 soon as possible and to the maximum extent practical (and to use COVID-19 risk
 mitigation practices in their operation).
- Face Masks. Individuals must wear masks or cloth face coverings over their noses and mouths when indoors in public settings and practice recommended hygiene, including regular hand washing and hand sanitization.
- Non-Essential Travel. All non-critical/non-essential travel within the Borough is prohibited.

- 4. Entering Travelers. All travelers entering the Borough through Kotzebue must complete travel questionnaires and submit to COVID-19 testing administered by Public Health Nurses from Maniilaq Health Center or provide satisfactory proof of negative test results, and await results of that testing before traveling within Kotzebue or to another village. All travelers arriving in Kotzebue from Anchorage are strongly encouraged to utilize State of Alaska Testing Sites at Ted Stevens International Airport in Anchorage instead of getting tested in Kotzebue in order to preserve the very limited number of available tests within the region. If awaiting test results, travelers must self-isolate or self-quarantine to limit potential exposure. Travelers testing positive for COVID-19 must follow quarantine instructions from Public Health Nurses. This requirement will be mandated and enforced as resources are available. Travelers who do not submit to testing or provide satisfactory proof of negative test results must self-quarantine for 14 days upon entering the region. Failure to comply with this mandate may result in prosecution for reckless endangerment (AS 11.41.250), which could result in imprisonment for up to one year and a fine up to \$25,000.
- Gatherings. All large events and mass gatherings of 11 people or more within the Borough are
 prohibited. This regulation does not apply to the day-to-day operations of organizations such as
 businesses or learning institutions that are not already subject to closure. Crowds and out-of-household socializing must be avoided.
- Classrooms. Learning institutions may hold classes of up to 20 students per room (not including teachers and other staff) if they have submitted an operations plan to the Borough for review and approval.
- 7. At-Risk Individuals. It is strongly recommended, in accordance with Center of Disease Control (CDC) guidance, that certain individuals within the Borough should take even greater precaution. That includes people particularly at risk of complications from COVID-19 such as people 60 years and older, and individuals of any age with a serious underlying condition.
- Potential Exposure. Household members who have been potentially exposed to COVID-19 and who are possibly contagious should be tested immediately and follow recommended quarantine measures to prevent a community outbreak.
- 9. <u>Essential Services</u>. Some businesses and entities serve critical roles that are necessary to combat this public health emergency or provide critical community functions are encouraged to remain open. Those businesses and entities must comply with social distancing guidelines, including maintaining six feet social distancing for employees and for members of the public in addition to conducting frequent sanitization. A list of businesses defined as critical is listed in NWAB EO-02.
- Non-Essential Businesses. All other businesses and entities in the Borough remain closed; however, businesses and entities may continue to utilize telecommuting or work-from-home procedures.
- 11. <u>Safe Subsistence Practices</u>. For residents performing subsistence activities and traveling to another community who must stop for groceries, gas, or supplies, you must use "curbside pickup," located at a controlled location set by the local government. Please plan ahead by

contacting vendors or a family member and paying ahead for curbside pickup. Whenever possible, accept deliveries without person-to-person interaction.

- 12. <u>Self-Responsibility</u>. The continuing health and safety of our region depends on self-responsibility and adherence to this emergency order, State and local mandates, and CDC guidance. Please take responsibility for yourself, your family and friends, and your community to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Community spread from social gatherings and close contact with family and friends has directly led to a COVID-19 surge in our region . PLEASE SOCIAL DISTANCE, AVOID CROWDS, AND PRACTICE RECOMMENDED HYGIENE PRACTICES.
- 13. Stopping Community Spread. Community spread from recent travel poses a significant infection threat to our region. Only you can help prevent community spread of COVID-19. If you have traveled or been in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 10 minutes) with someone who traveled recently, you must quarantine at home for 14 days without contacting people outside your household. If you have traveled out of Alaska, you must follow State of Alaska travel mandates upon your return:

(http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/SiteAssets/Pages/HumanCoV/FAQ Travel.pdf)

If you have traveled outside the region without leaving Alaska, you must provide proof of a negative test within 72 hours of arrival or submit to testing as detailed above in Paragraph 4.

DATED this 13th day of November 2020.

Mayor Lucy S. Nelson