



**PROCLAMATION
OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF UINTAH COUNTY, UTAH,
DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2020, the Utah Department of Health activated its Department Operations Center in response to the evolving COVID-19 global outbreak. The Utah Department of Health recognizes COVID-19 as an imminent threat to the health and safety of the residents of Utah; and

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020, Utah Governor Gary R. Herbert issued an Executive Order declaring a state of emergency in Utah due to the global outbreak of the novel coronavirus COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the State Emergency Operations Center raised its activation level to Level 1 – Full Activation. The Utah Division of Emergency Management and The Utah Department of Health activated a Joint Information System for public information; and

WHEREAS, the CDC identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 in the United States as "high", and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur within the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Utah Department of Health has confirmed community transmission within the State Utah, and such activity significantly increases the risk of exposure and infection to the State of Utah's general public and poses a significantly increased public health risk; and

WHEREAS, confirmed community transmission of COVID-19 within the State of Utah has created conditions that are or are likely to be beyond the control of local resources and require the combined resources of other political subdivisions to combat; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Utah Department of Health issued a State Public Health Order regarding limitations on restaurants, bars, and taverns, limitations on gatherings and access to long-term care facilities, and updated general recommendations for all individuals within the State of Utah; and

WHEREAS, the mobilization of local resources, ability to coordinate interagency response, accelerate procurement of vital supplies, and use mutual aid will be critical to successfully responding to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, these conditions do create a "State of Emergency" within the intent of the "Disaster Response and Recovery Act" found in Title 53, Chapter 2a of the Utah Code Annotated 1953, as

amended; and necessitate that Uintah County proclaim the existence of a local emergency, which allows for the utilization of emergency police powers and resources.

WHEREAS, Utah Code Ann. §53-2a-208 gives the chief executive officer of a county to declare a local emergency by proclamation.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED by the Chief Executive Officer of Uintah County that a local emergency exists in Uintah County due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This declaration of a local emergency: (1) constitutes an official recognition that there is a local emergency affecting Uintah County, Utah; (2) provides a legal basis for requesting and obtaining mutual aid or disaster assistance from both the State of Utah, the federal government or other political subdivisions; (3) activates the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local disaster emergency plans; (4) authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance in relation to this Proclamation; (5) should be interpreted liberally in its effect to assist local business, organizations, and families to apply for and receive available financial assistance.

This Proclamation shall take effect immediately and shall expire thirty (30) days after the Effective Date (defined below) unless ratified in written form by the Uintah County Commission. This Proclamation shall be filed with the Uintah County Clerk-Auditor as soon as practicable.

Effective Date: 20th day of March, 2020

ATTEST:

UINTAH COUNTY:



Michael W. Wilkins
Uintah County Clerk-Auditor



Brad G. Horrocks, Chair



Approved as to Form:



Jonathan A. Stearmer
Chief Deputy Uintah County Attorney