



## **CRAVEN COUNTY PROCLAMATION PROHIBITING SHORT TERM RENTALS (COVID-19)**

### Section 1

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic continues to cause severe sickness in and death of infected individuals. As a response to this pandemic, on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020, I declared a State of Emergency, which remains in full force and effect.

### Section 2

Subsequently, the Town of Trent Woods, the Town of Bridgeton, the Town of Dover and the Town of Cove City made the aforesaid State of Emergency applicable within their jurisdictions, and further requested that all orders and proclamations issued pursuant to the aforesaid State of Emergency be effective within their jurisdictions. Therefore, this Proclamation shall apply to all unincorporated areas of Craven County and within the jurisdictions of the Town of Trent Woods, the Town of Bridgeton, the Town of Dover and the Town of Cove City.

### Section 3

As the effects from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic impact other parts of North Carolina and the United States, certain individuals are fleeing the most significantly impacted areas and are relocating to rural locations throughout the United States. Many of these individuals are lodging in facilities that may impede appropriate social distancing because of the nature of these facilities – for example, common areas, lobbies, hallways and shared sanitary facilities prevent appropriate social distancing practices. Furthermore, as these individuals are fleeing areas significantly impacted by the pandemic, these individuals are increasing the risk of infection to others and may in fact be accelerating the spread of the pandemic. Craven County is currently experiencing an influx of individuals from other areas.

#### Section 4

Pursuant to Chapter 12 of Craven County's Code of Ordinances and Chapter 166A of the General Statutes of North Carolina, and as Chairperson of Craven County's Board of Commissioners, I have the authority to prohibit or restrict (i) the movement of people in public places; (ii) the operation of offices, business establishments, and other places to or from which people may travel or at which they may congregate; and (iii) other activities or conditions the control of which may be reasonably necessary to maintain order and protect lives or property during a state of emergency, within the area designated in a Proclamation.

#### Section 5

Based on the foregoing, and in an effort to protect the health, safety and property of all Craven County citizens, I hereby **PROHIBIT** the rental of any hotel room, motel room, rental housing unit, condominium, timeshare, apartment, RV campsite, primitive campsite, or similar accommodation, for a term of less than forty-five (45) consecutive days, until such time as this Proclamation is rescinded. This Proclamation shall become effective at **12:01 p.m. on Sunday, April 5, 2020**, and individuals who are currently occupying any accommodation which would be prohibited by this Proclamation after said effective date shall immediately **VACATE** same. This Proclamation shall expire upon the termination of the State of Emergency referenced above.

#### Section 6

Exempted from this Proclamation are individuals involved in the following "Essential Businesses and Operations" as defined in the March 27, 2020 Executive Order No. 121: (a) CISA identified sectors (Section 2(c)(2)); (b) Healthcare and Public Health Operations (Section 2(c)(3)); Essential Infrastructure Operations (Section 2 (c)(5)); Essential Government Operations (Section 2(c)(6)); Defense and Military Contractors (Section 2(c)(7)).

Also exempted from this Proclamation are (a) individuals who were residing as of March 1, 2020 in accommodations prohibited by this Proclamation; (b) victims of domestic violence; (c) individuals who are transitioning from one permanent

place of residence within Craven County to another permanent place of residence within Craven County, or who are unable to occupy their permanent place of residence in Craven County due to casualty loss, repairs, or other similar temporary situations impacting the habitability of a permanent place of residence located in Craven County; (d) employees of the State of North Carolina; and (e) employees of the United States.

#### Section 7

This Proclamation may be enforced by any local law enforcement agency. Pursuant to Chapter 166A of the North Carolina Statutes and pursuant to the Code of Ordinances of Craven County, any person who violates this Proclamation shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.

#### Section 8

All Craven County employees and officials are hereby directed to assist public health authorities, health care providers, first responders, emergency management workers and law enforcement officers in (a) the implementation of this order and (b) the protection of the health, safety and property of all Craven County citizens, subject to Craven County's emergency management plan and subject to the orders of their management or superior officers, as the case may be.

Effective this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2020.



THOMAS F. MARK, Chairman,  
Craven County Board of Commissioners