

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, by Proclamation dated March 14, 2020, issued by Tate Reeves, Governor of the State of Mississippi, a state of emergency was declared pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. Section 33-15-11, in order to address the high risk for an outbreak of the novel coronavirus, identified as COVID-19, in the State of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control(CDC) identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as "very high", and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Proclamation has invoked the emergency powers of the Governor pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. Section 33-15-11(c)(1) to temporarily suspend or modify any rule or regulation of a state agency which would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and

WHEREAS, for purposes of Executive Order 1463 as supplemented, Essential Business or Operation means, and is not limited to, essential services necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation and essential operations of residences and essential businesses and essential business operations, including law enforcement, fire prevention and response, firearm and ammunition manufacturers and retailers, building code enforcement, security, emergency management and response, building cleaning including disinfection, automotive sales and repair, mortuaries and cemeteries; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi State Board of Funeral Service, an agency of the State of Mississippi, wishes to comply with the Governor's proclamation and take steps necessary to address and modify rules/regulations which would significantly increase the risk of exposure and infection to Mississippi's general public and create a health risk that may spread quickly;

NOW THEREFORE, until action is taken by the Governor of the State of Mississippi to lift the declared emergency the Mississippi State Board of Funeral Service makes the following modifications:

1. Consistent with Executive Order No. 1492 as Supplemented, Group gatherings **(Where Social Distancing IS NOT Possible)**: Public and private social gatherings shall be limited to groups of no more than 20 people in a single indoor space or groups of no more than 50 people in an outdoor space where individuals are in close proximity (less than 6 feet) to each other. All entities regulated by the Mississippi State Board of Funeral Service are authorized and directed to cooperate in actions and measures taken in response to COVID-19 during the State of Emergency.

2. Consistent with Executive Order No. 1492 as Supplemented, Group gatherings **(Where Social Distancing IS Possible)**: Public and private social gatherings shall be limited to groups of no more than 50 people in a single indoor space or groups of no more than 100 people in an outdoor space where individuals are able to maintain a minimum of 6 feet separation. All entities regulated by the Mississippi State Board of Funeral Service are authorized and directed to cooperate in actions and measures taken in response to COVID-19 during the State of Emergency.

FURTHER, except as specifically stated herein, all other regulations remain in full force and effect.

SO ORDERED AND APPROVED by the Mississippi State Board of Funeral Service this the 3rd day June, 2020.

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE

BY: 
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR