

PROCLAMATION OF A DISASTER IN DeKalb County

WHEREAS, a significant outbreak of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) emerged in China; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a novel severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among people through respiratory transmissions and present with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, certain populations are at higher risk of experiencing more severe illness as a result of COVID-19 including older adults and people who have serious chronic medical conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, or lung disease; and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County is continuing its efforts to prepare for any eventuality given that this is a novel illness with known health risks to the elderly and those with serious chronic medical conditions; and

WHEREAS, the CDC currently recommends community preparedness and everyday prevention measures be taken by all individuals and families in the United States, including voluntary home isolation when individuals are sick with respiratory symptoms, covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue, washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and routinely cleaning frequently touched surfaces and objects to increase community resilience and readiness for responding to an outbreak; and

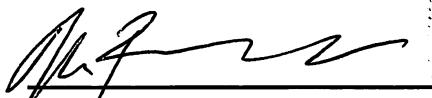
WHEREAS, it is the policy of DeKalb County to be prepared to address any disasters and therefore, it is necessary and appropriate to make additional resources within DeKalb County available to ensure that the effects of COVID-19 are mitigated and minimized and that residents and visitors in DeKalb County remain safe and secure; and

WHEREAS, this proclamation will activate DeKalb Counties emergency operations plan by proclaiming that a disaster exists within DeKalb County, this proclamation of disaster will assist the residents of DeKalb County, by and through its Emergency Services & Disaster Agency and through coordination of federal, state, county and municipal resources and response activities, in an effort to prevent and reduce further damage and hazards, protect the health and safety of persons, protect property and provide emergency response;

NOW THEREFORE I, Mark Pietrowski, Jr. by virtue of the authority vested in me as County Board Chairman of DeKalb County Illinois, pursuant to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/11, proclaim that a disaster exists within DeKalb County, Illinois.

This proclamation is effective on March 18, 2020 and shall continue for a period not to exceed sixty days, unless extended by the County Board of DeKalb County.

Approved:



Mark Pietrowski, Jr.
County Board Chairman

Attest:



Douglas J. Johnson
County Clerk & Recorder

