E.O. 20-03

March 17, 2020

Town of Morristown, New Jersey

EXECUTIVE ORDER # 20-03

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF MORRISTOWN DECLARING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY AND REQUIRING ALL BARBER SHOPS, HAIR SALONS, LICENSED COSMETOLOGY AND MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS TO CLOSE

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Mayor of the Town of Morristown by law, I hereby issue this Executive Order. It shall be kept on file in the Office of the Town Clerk and Business Administrator and will be made available upon request. It shall also be posted on the Town’s website.

WHEREAS, Coronavirus ("COVID-19") is a contagious, and sometimes fatal, respiratory disease; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is responsible for the 2019 novel coronavirus outbreak, which was first identified in Wuhan, the People’s Republic of China in December 2019 and quickly spread to other countries; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath, which can develop in as few as two or as long as 14 days after exposure, and can passed from person to person when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency for the United States to aid the nation’s healthcare community in responding to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as of March 17, 2020, there are at least 178 presumed positive cases of COVID-19 in New Jersey, including in the Town of Morristown; and

WHEREAS, the CDC expects that additional cases of COVID-19 will be identified in the future; and

WHEREAS, personal service businesses, such as barber shops, hair salons, state licensed cosmetology establishments and massage establishments require direct contact with clients that prohibit social distancing and could pose a heightened risk of exposure to COVID-19; and
WHEREAS, the Town of Morristown needs to be proactive in its approach to protecting its residents and to also follow the guidelines of the CDC and World Health Organization which have studied the trends regarding the spread of COVID-19 in other countries; and

WHEREAS, the evidence suggests that public policy should promote social distancing in order to prevent the spread of the disease and a surge on the public healthcare system; and

WHEREAS, the health and safety of the residents of the Town of Morristown is most important; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to protect the health and safety of residents, visitors, and first responders within the Town, the Town of Morristown believes it is necessary to implement the following measure;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIMOTHY P. DOUGHERTY, Mayor of the Town of Morristown, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the New Jersey State Constitution and the Statutes of the State of New Jersey, do hereby ORDER AND DIRECT that effective as of 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 17, 2020, all Barber Shops, Hair Salons, all state licensed cosmetology establishments, and Massage Establishments located within the Town of Morristown shall close for business and remain closed until further notice.

If any provision of this Executive Order, or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstances, shall be held invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this Executive Order to the extent it can be given effect, or the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid or unenforceable shall not be affected thereby, and to this extent the provision of this Executive Order are severable.

Violators may be subject to fines and penalties. It is necessary for all to aggressively mitigate the potential for exposure and the further spread of this disease.

Timothy P. Dougherty
MAYOR

cc: Margot Kaye, Town Clerk
    Jillian Barrick, Business Administrator
    Vijayant Pawar, Director of Law