EXECUTIVE ORDER

Further Limits on the Size of Intentional Gatherings

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, a state of emergency was declared in St. Louis County relating to the immediate and significant risk posed to the health, safety, and wellbeing of the people of St. Louis County that is presented by COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Paragraph 6 of the Executive Order dated March 13, 2020 declared it unlawful for any person to organize or to attend an intentional gathering of 250 people or more in a single space or room and further required every person who organizes a gathering of 249 people or less to take appropriate action to minimize risk to the greatest extent possible by implementing and enforcing mitigation measures, including but not limited to social distancing, limiting the time period of gatherings, frequent cleaning of all surfaces, and posting of signs;

WHEREAS, the limitations on the size of gatherings and other related requirements described in the executive order dated March 13, 2020 were based on the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (the “CDC”);

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the CDC amended its guidance for preventing and limiting the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the CDC now recommends that gatherings be limited in size to 50 people or less and that events with fewer than 50 people be permitted only if the organizers adhere to guidelines for protecting vulnerable populations, hand hygiene, and social distancing;

WHEREAS, the CDC’s guidance dated March 15, 2020 does not apply to the day-to-day operation of schools, institutions of higher learning, or businesses;
WHEREAS, the CDC’s guidance dated March 15, 2020 “is not intended to supersede the advice of local public health officials”;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sam Page, County Executive, St. Louis County, Missouri, do hereby ORDER and DECLARE the following:

1. Paragraph 6 of my Executive Order dated March 13, 2020 shall be rescinded and replaced by the following as if fully set forth therein:

   It is hereby declared unlawful for any person to organize or to attend an intentional gathering of 50 people or more in a single space or room. It is further provided that any person who organizes a gathering of 49 people or less shall take appropriate action to minimize risk to the greatest extent possible by implementing and enforcing mitigation measures, including but not limited to social distancing, limiting the time period of gatherings, frequent cleaning of all surfaces, and posting of signs. It is further declared unlawful for any person to organize or to attend an intentional gathering of more than 10 individuals of high-risk groups as that term may be defined by the Director of the Department of Public Health. This paragraph shall not apply to school attendance, places of employment, grocery stores, retail stores, means of public transit, or any activity that a court of competent jurisdiction holds cannot constitutionally be closed in these specific circumstances.

2. The Director of the Department of Public Health may promulgate such mandatory or advisory rules, orders, policies, and guidance as is necessary and appropriate to implement this Executive Order or the Executive Order dated March 13, 2020, or to define any of the terms used in either order. Mandatory rules, orders, or policies so promulgated shall have the force of law to the greatest extent permitted by federal, state, and county law.
3. This order shall be effective immediately upon my execution hereof and it shall expire only upon further order.

SO ORDERED this fifteenth day of March 2020.

ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI

[Signature]

Sam Page
County Executive