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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 6, 2020

**Mayor Donald O. Burnette Issues Proclamation  
Regarding Face Coverings For City of Port Orange**

**Port Orange, FL** – By proclamation of the Mayor of Port Orange, Donald O. Burnette proclaims this month of July 2020 as “wear a face covering” month in the City of Port Orange. This month will highlight the necessity of the wearing of face coverings when social distancing is not attainable throughout the City of Port Orange and urges all residents and businesses to do the same.

“Our responsibility to protect the public health is serious and of great importance,” said Mayor Burnette. “We are at a critical point in the battle against this dreaded virus and we are asking for everyone’s help for the next 30 days so that we can beat this virus down for the benefit of all.”

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe and acute respiratory illness and can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and causes symptoms similar to those of influenza and in some cases death; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump issued a Proclamation Declaring a national emergency concerning COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order No. 20-52 declaring a State of Emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Volusia declared a State of Emergency on March 13, 2020, which has been extended for additional periods of seven days each effective, March 24, March 31, April 7, April 14, April 21, April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26, June 2, June 9, June 16, June 23, and June 30; and

**WHEREAS**, Resolution No. 2020-12 was approved on March 16, 2020, declaring a local state of emergency throughout the City of Port Orange as a result of COVID-19 which continues to exist; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 29, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order No. 20- 112, as modified by Executive Order No. 20-120 on May 9, 2020, and Executive Order No. 20-123 on May 14, 2020, in response to the recommendations set forth in Phase 1 of the plan issued by the Task Force to Re-Open Florida, and adopted a phased approach to remove or decrease certain restrictions imposed pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-91, Safer-at-Home Order; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 3, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order No. 20- 129, moving all counties in Florida, other than Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties into Phase 2 of the plan issued by the Task Force to Re-Open Florida, which Order supersedes Executive Order No. 20-91, the Safer-at-Home Order, and supersedes in part, and extends and modified other provisions of Executive Order No. 20 -112; and

**WHEREAS**, based on recent information and data from the Florida Department of Health, the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Volusia County has increased significantly since additional re-opening was authorized under Phase 2 of the Governor's Plan for Florida's Recovery, which increase may result in additional deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to the dramatic increase in COVID-19 cases, the Florida Medical Association, the State's largest physician's organization, encourages all local officials to adopt regulations requiring individuals to wear face coverings in public places; and

**WHEREAS**, based on advice from medical professionals the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Volusia County and the City of Port Orange will increase exponentially if additional measures to stop the spread or slow the spread of COVID-19 are not instituted; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") has expressly found that: COVID-19 spreads mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks. These droplets can land in the mouths and noses of people who are nearby or be inhaled into the lungs. Studies and evidence on infection control report that these droplets usually travel around 6 feet (about two arm's length); and

**WHEREAS**, the CDC therefore specifically recommends that as business and communities reopen, and people resume their daily activities; people should wear face coverings to slow the spread of COVID-19, particularly “in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor of the City of Port Orange is authorized to issue proclamations consistent with the authority provided by the City Charter; and

**WHEREAS**, mitigating the effects of COVID-19 and protecting the health of its citizens and visitors is a high priority of the City of Port Orange; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor fully supports the recommendation of the CDC that every person, living, working, visiting or doing business in the City of Port Orange should wear face coverings of material that securely covers a person’s nose and mouth and remains affixed in place without the use of one’s hands, whether store-bought or homemade, concurrent with CDC guidelines and for the duration of the declared emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor fully supports the recommendation of the CDC that every person, living, working, visiting or doing business in the City of Port Orange should wear face coverings in any indoor location other than home or residence; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor fully supports the recommendation of the CDC that every person, living, working, visiting or doing business in the City of Port Orange should wear face coverings in any public outdoor location; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor encourages all businesses to prohibit entry of any person who is not wearing a face covering with the exception of:

- Persons under two years of age; and
- Persons observing social distancing in accordance with CDC guidelines; and
- Persons for whom a face covering would cause impairment due to an existing health condition; and
- Persons working in a business or profession who do not have interactions with the public; and
- Persons working in a business or profession who maintain social distancing from another person; and
- Persons working in a business or profession where use of face coverings would prevent them from performing the duties of the business or profession; and
- Persons exercising while maintaining social distancing; and
- Persons eating or drinking; and - Public safety, fire, and other life safety and health care personnel, as their personal protective equipment requirements will be governed by their respective agencies; and
- Shall not apply when a person who is hearing impaired needs to see the mouth of someone wearing a face covering in order to communicate.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Donald O Burnette, Mayor of the City of Port Orange, Florida, do hereby proclaim this month of July, 2020, as “wear a face covering” month in the City of Port Orange. This month will highlight the necessity of the wearing of face coverings when social distancing is not attainable throughout the CITY OF PORT ORANGE, as provided above, and I urge all residents and businesses to do the same in order to slow the spread.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Port Orange, Florida, to be affixed this 6<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty.

Donald O. Burnette, Mayor  
July 6, 2020

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