

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-1

WHEREAS, the City of Hattiesburg has declared an Emergency Declaration in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and in cases of pandemic, leaders must make strategic and operational decisions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Toby Barker, Mayor of the City of Hattiesburg, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the State of Mississippi pursuant to Code Section 33-15-17 (c) (7) and in an effort to slow the spread of Covid-19 and to make common sense policy and operational decisions to that end, hereby issue the following guidelines for bars, nightclubs restaurants, coffee shops, event venues and fitness centers in the City of Hattiesburg will be implemented beginning tomorrow, March 18, 2020, and will be enforced until March 31, 2020.

- All full-service restaurants with indoor seating will cease operations at 9 p.m. daily. Once the dining room closes, a restaurant may still offer delivery or pick-up and to go orders.
- Full-service restaurants and coffee shops will reduce indoor seating capacity by half – or to 50, whichever is less. Restaurants must provide at least 6 feet of space between tables.
- Full-service restaurants and coffee shops will also reduce outdoor seating capacity by half – or to 50, whichever is less. Restaurants must provide at least 6 feet of space between tables.
- Bars and nightclubs will cease service at 12 a.m. daily. They will reduce their capacity by half of the posted patron limit. Last call will be 11:15 p.m. Everyone must be out and headed home by midnight.
- Mall food courts – both at Turtle Creek and Cloverleaf – will reduce seating capacity to 50 people and ensure there is at least 6' between tables.
- Operators will post notice to patrons that when they depart to please consider returning home.
- Operators will not allow gathering for waiting for seating, or access purposes. They will implement use of text messaging, phone call or other notification to advise if the table is ready.
- Operators will encourage no public gatherings in any area.
- Once patrons exit the premises of restaurants or bars, they may not loiter in the street or congregate in groups outside. This will be enforced city-wide.
- All dance hall permits are hereby suspended until March 31, 2020.
- All event venues shall ensure that there are no gatherings of more than 50 people.
- All gyms and fitness centers shall ensure there are no more than 50 people in their facilities at one time and will practice frequent sanitation methods throughout business hours.


Toby Barker, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kermas Eaton, City Clerk