

**CITY OF ALLENTOWN
PROCLAMATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY**

**BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND BY THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN:**

WHEREAS, the Emergency Management Services Code (“Code”), 35 Pa.C.S. §§7101, *et. seq.*, authorizes the Governor to declare a disaster emergency, 35 Pa.C.S. §7301(c);

WHEREAS, pursuant to this authority, Governor Thomas Wolf on March 6, 2020 “[P]roclaim[ed] the existence of a disaster emergency throughout the Commonwealth” with respect to the disaster and emergency caused by the ongoing worldwide pandemic from the spread of the COVID-19 virus - also known as the Coronavirus

WHEREAS, Governor Wolf further stated:

[T]his threat of imminent disaster and emergency situation throughout the Commonwealth is of such magnitude and severity as to render essential the Commonwealth’s supplementation of emergency resources and mutual aid to the county and municipal governments of this Commonwealth and to require the activation of all applicable state, county, and municipal emergency response plans.

WHEREAS, Governor Wolf in his Proclamation of March 6, 2020 also:

[U]rge[d] the governing bodies and executive officers of all political subdivisions affected by this emergency to act as necessary to meet the current exigencies as legally authorized under this Proclamation, namely, by the employment of temporary workers, by the rental of equipment, and by entering into such contracts and agreements as may be required to meet the emergency, all without regard to those time consuming procedures and formalities normally prescribed by law, mandatory constitutional requirement excepted.

WHEREAS, the Governor’s proclamation, by its express terms, authorizes the activation of municipal emergency response plans in political subdivisions which includes the City of Allentown;

WHEREAS, the Code authorizes the Mayor and the governing bodies of political subdivisions, namely, the City Council of the City of Allentown, to utilize emergency procedures, including those emergency procedures related to employment and procurement, 35 Pa.C.S. §7501(d);

WHEREAS, the Code also authorizes the Mayor and City Council of the City of Allentown to declare a disaster emergency, 35 Pa.C.S. §7501(c), which itself enables a political subdivision to utilize emergency procedures including those related to employment and procurement 35 Pa.C.S. §7501(d);

WHEREAS, a pandemic disaster caused by the COVID-19 virus has caused and imminently threatens to cause injury, damage, and suffering to the persons and property in the City of Allentown; and

WHEREAS, the disaster emergency endangers the health, safety and welfare of a substantial number of persons residing in the City of Allentown, and threatens to create problems greater in scope than the City of Allentown may be able to resolve; and

WHEREAS, emergency management measures are required to reduce the severity of this disaster and to protect the health, safety and welfare of affected residents in the City of Allentown:

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the undersigned Mayor of the City of Allentown, and the President of City Council, authorized by resolution duly adopted by Council concurrent herewith, pursuant to the provisions of the Code, do hereby proclaim the existence of a disaster emergency in the City of Allentown.

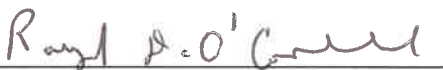
FURTHER, we direct the City of Allentown Emergency Management Coordinator to coordinate the activities of the emergency response, to take all appropriate action needed to alleviate the effects of this disaster, to aid in the restoration of essential public services, and to take any other emergency response action deemed necessary to respond to this emergency declared by the Governor and by the City.

FURTHER, we authorize officials of the City of Allentown to act as necessary to meet the current demands of this emergency, including: by the employment of temporary workers, by the rental of equipment, by the purchase of supplies and materials, and by entering into such contracts and agreements for the performance of public work as may be required to meet the emergency, all without regard to those time-consuming procedures and formalities normally prescribed by law, mandatory constitutional requirements excepted.

STILL FURTHER, we authorize and direct:

- 1) that this Proclamation shall take effect immediately, with the full force and extent authorized under law, upon execution by all persons whose signatures are required below;
- 2) that this Proclamation shall remain in effect concurrent with and for the duration of the disaster emergency declared by the Governor;
- 3) that such extensions as may be required by law to continue the Proclamation in force and effect for such duration are deemed and are hereby authorized; and


4) that this Proclamation may be amended and continued by the City as it deems necessary notwithstanding amendment or ending of the Governor's Proclamation.


Raymond O'Connell, Mayor

Date: 3/18/20


Daryl Hendricks, City Council President

Date: 3/18/20

Attest: 
Michael Hanlon, Clerk, City Council

Date: 3/18/20

