RESOLUTION NO. 2020-32

EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING PROTECTION OF PERSONS OVER THE AGE OF 65, OR WITH SERIOUS UNDERLYING HEALTH CONDITIONS AND ADHERENCE TO THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION GUIDELINES TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19.

WHEREAS, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, Emergency Management governs Local Emergencies; and

WHEREAS, Lake County is currently under a State of Emergency pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-51, as declared by Governor DeSantis on March 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2020-29, dated March 16, 2020, of the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County, Florida, declared a local state of emergency in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19"); and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2020-30, dated March 23, 2020, of the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County, Florida, extended the local state of emergency for an additional seven (7) days due to the ongoing health threat to those within the County related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-83 to reinforce the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines implemented as part of the "15 Days to Slow the Spread" initiative; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2020-31, dated March 30, 2020, of the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County, Florida, extended the local state of emergency for an additional seven (7) days due to the ongoing health threat to those within the County related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 poses a health risk to Lake County residents, particularly elderly residents and those who are immunosuppressed or otherwise have high-risk medical conditions; and

WHEREAS, public health experts have consistently recommended avoiding close physical interaction between people to slow the spread of COVID-19, and the CDC has updated and further restricted its distancing guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has stated that older adults and people of any age with serious underlying medical conditions are particularly at risk for severe illness or death from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County, Florida, has determined that it is necessary to issue this Emergency Order to: protect the health and safety of the residents and visitors of Lake County, Florida; to assist the healthcare delivery system in its ability to serve those persons infected by COVID-19; and to prevent community spread of this deadly disease.

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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County, Florida, that:

Section 1. Emergency Declaration.

1. Persons over 65 years of age, or persons who reside with an individual over 65 years of age, are urged to stay home and take such other measures as necessary to limit their risk of exposure to COVID-19.

2. Persons that have a serious underlying medical condition that places them at a high risk of severe illness from COVID-19, or persons who reside with an individual with such medical conditions, are urged to stay at home and take other such measures as necessary to limit their risk of exposure to COVID-19. Consistent with CDC guidance, such conditions include, but are not limited to, chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma; serious heart conditions; immunocompromised status, including those in cancer treatment; and severe obesity.

3. Employers are urged to allow employees who are over 65 years of age, or that have a serious underlying medical condition that places them at a high risk of severe illness from COVID-19, or to allow employees who reside with someone in these categories, the ability to work from home if able; in the alternative employers are urged to provide flexibility with leave time to ensure such employees are protected.

4. Employers are urged to allow any employee who can work remotely the ability to do so.

5. The provision of this order shall serve as minimum standards.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect upon signature and shall remain in effect throughout the Local State of Emergency, unless earlier rescinded.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 30th day of March, 2020.

ATTEST:

Gary J. Conley, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
of Lake County, Florida

Approved as to form and legality:

Melanie Marsh, County Attorney

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Leslie Campione, Chairman

This 30th day of March, 2020.