

**A PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF GULFPORT
CONCERNING AN ADDITIONAL EXTENSION OF ADMINISTRATIVE
LEAVE ASSOCIATED WITH HURRICANE ZETA**

Hurricane Zeta: Second Extension of Administrative Leave/Closure

WHEREAS, as Mayor of the City of Gulfport, Mississippi, the undersigned declared and proclaimed that a “**State of Emergency**” existed in the City, as of 8:00 p.m., central time, on October 26, 2020, as a result of an imminent threat of a “natural disaster” resulting from Hurricane Zeta and related conditions (tropical rains, winds, storm surge, lightening, flooding, etc.) projected to commence in the area on or about October 28-29, 2020, and impact an area that included the City of Gulfport, and that, as the Executive/Administrative Officer of the City of Gulfport and under authority of § 45-17-3, et seq., *Miss. Code Ann.*, and related statutes, the undersigned found and declared that a “Civil Emergency” existed in the City of Gulfport, Mississippi and/or under authority of § 33-15-17(d), et seq., *Miss. Code Ann.* and related statutes, the undersigned found and declared that a “**Local Emergency**” existed in the City of Gulfport, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Mississippi subsequently declared and proclaimed, pursuant to authority vested in him by the Mississippi Constitution of 1890 and § 33-15-11(b)(17), that as of October 28, 2020, a State of Emergency existed in the State of Mississippi as a result of the impending impact of Hurricane Zeta; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned later determined that as of 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Wednesday, October 28, 2020, the administrative functions of the City in various Departments and Buildings could not operate due to the imminent threat of Hurricane Zeta and related conditions and the undersigned determined that it was necessary to implement an administrative closure and for all City Departments to cease operations, including later, for those in the Police, Fire, Public Works, 311, and Leisure Services Departments associated with the provision of services dedicated to public safety, as set forth in a Mayoral Proclamation that was signed by the undersigned on October 28, 2020; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to safeguard and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public and for the protection and preservation of life and property, the undersigned issued a general curfew by Order on October 28, 2020, to curtail and restrict the movement of people and the motoring public in the City’s corporate limits from 5:00 p.m. central time on Wednesday, October 28, 2020, to 5:59 a.m. central time on Thursday, October 29, 2020, which curfew was subsequently extended through 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Thursday, October 29, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Hurricane Zeta struck the Mississippi Gulf Coast and the City of Gulfport during the late afternoon and evening hours on October 28, 2020, and did so as a Category 2 Hurricane, which was a stronger storm than was expected; and which caused significant damage to public and private property in the City, and which damage included, among other things, downed power lines and utility infrastructure, trees, and other debris in and along the roadways, and which also caused widespread power outages throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, there still remains downed power lines and utility infrastructure, trees, and other debris in and along roadways in the City and other hazards to the public in moving out and about the City and most of the City still remains without electrical power, including many of the City's buildings and facilities; and

WHEREAS, in view of the foregoing and the fact that the administrative functions of the City in various Departments and Buildings still cannot presently operate due to the aftermath following Hurricane Zeta and related conditions and the damages caused thereby, to include obstructions on public roadways and downed power lines, utilities, and trees and a lack of electrical power at many of the City's buildings and facilities, the undersigned has hereby determined that it is necessary that administrative closure for all City Departments to cease operations, which went into effect (for all City Departments) at 5:00 p.m. on October 28, 2020, and which was later extended through 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 29, 2020, be further extended through 8:00 a.m. on Friday, October 30, 2020.

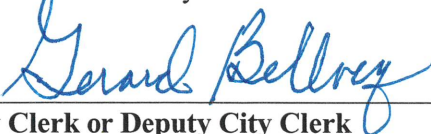
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that due to a natural disaster, or imminent threat thereof, within the geographic limits of the City of Gulfport which has caused and continues to cause or threaten to cause injury or death to persons and/or destruction of property to such an extent that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect the public health, safety and welfare, the period of administrative closure of the administrative functions of the City, pursuant to Section 10.11 of the City's Employee Handbook, that was in effect as of 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 28, 2020, and was initially extended to 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Thursday, October 29, 2020, is hereby now further extended to 8:00 a.m. on Friday, October 30, 2020, during which time the essential and non-essential dichotomy will continue to be implemented and in effect. Pay to essential and non-essential employees shall be made in accord with Section 10.11 of the City's Employee Handbook. *Unless otherwise ordered by the undersigned, this administrative closure shall be lifted and no longer be in effect as of 8:00 a.m. on Friday, October 30, 2020.* All affected employees are now required to return to regular work or otherwise report to work by 8:00 a.m. on Friday, October 30, 2020, or at their regular times following thereof.

SO ORDERED AND PROCLAIMED on this the 29th day of October, 2020, at 8:00 a.m.



MAYOR

Filed and Attested by:



City Clerk or Deputy City Clerk