



EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 39
By: Mayor Larry Waters

Sevier County Response to Governor Lee Executive Order 63

WHEREAS, Sevier Countians, under challenging and unprecedented circumstances, have done a commendable job in assisting with the mitigation of the spread of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, these efforts have reduced the weekly metric fourteen-day average new case count from a high of 40.14 cases per day to 14.00 cases per day; and,

WHEREAS, these efforts have also reduced the weekly metric fourteen-day average positivity rate from a high of 17.88% to 9.49%; and,

WHEREAS, this reduction in overall COVID-19 cases and positivity rate took place during the 2020 summer tourist season which saw significant recovery in overall revenues indicating a good tourist season that surpassed expectations both in terms of revenue and overall visitors; and,

WHEREAS, Executive Order 23 by Sevier County Mayor Larry Waters declared that face coverings shall be mandatory within Sevier County with noted exceptions until 11:59 PM EDT Monday, August 3, 2020 pursuant to Governor Bill Lee's Executive Order 54; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Bill Lee extended the ability for local county mayors to issue a mask mandate until 11:59 PM CDT on August 29, 2020 via Executive Order 55; and,

WHEREAS, Executive Order 29 by Sevier County Mayor Larry Waters continued the orders set forth in Executive Order 23 pursuant to Bill Lee's Executive Order 55 until 11:59 PM EDT on August 29, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Bill Lee extended the ability for local county mayors to issue a mask mandate until 11:59 PM CDT on September 30, 2020 via Executive Order 59; and,

WHEREAS, Executive Order 34 by Sevier County Mayor Larry Waters continued the orders set forth in Executive Order 23 pursuant to Bill Lee's Executive Order 59 until 11:59 PM EDT on September 30, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Bill Lee extended the ability for local county mayors to issue a mask mandate until 11:59 PM CDT on October 30, 2020 via Executive Order 63; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee Department of Health urged local leaders to continue the face mask requirement given positive data results and overall reduction in the severity of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Sevier County.

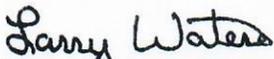
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sevier County Mayor Larry Waters in consultation with Mayor Robbie Fox of Sevierville, Mayor David Wear of Pigeon Forge, Mayor Mike Werner of Gatlinburg, and Mayor Jerry Huskey of Pittman Center, pursuant to Governor Lee's request, to protect the health and safety of residents, employees, and visitors, and to mitigate the possibility of the state placing further restrictions and/or closures on businesses, do declare that Executive Order 23 dated July 7, 2020 along with corresponding further clarifications and other corresponding Executive Orders such as Executive Orders 29 and 34 shall continue and be in effect until 11:59 PM EDT on October 30, 2020.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that it is the intention of Mayor Larry Waters to end the Face Covering Requirement as defined in Executive Order 23 at the conclusion of this extension on October 30, 2020. This, however, is at the discretion of Mayor Waters and the ability to do such an order by Governor Lee.

IT IS FURTHER CLARIFIED that individuals and businesses should refer to Executive Order 23 and the Further Clarifications notice for details concerning the Face Covering Requirement. As a reminder, when a person is alone or properly social distanced (or only with family or household members) in indoor spaces, there is no requirement to wear a mask unless the local business requires such a mask. The spirit of the requirement is for individuals to wear a mask when social distancing from other individuals is not possible. Businesses may have stricter rules than what is included in this order.

IT IS FURTHER REQUESTED that Sevier County citizens, visitors, employees and businesses continue to adhere to the Tennessee Pledge as set forth by Governor Lee to ensure the health of all Sevier Countians, employees, and visitors, and to further ensure our economy continues to stay open and viable.

SO ORDERED this 30th day of September, 2020.



Honorable Larry Waters
Mayor, Sevier County