DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY
AND CURFEW IN BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

Bleckley County is working to ensure the health and safety of our citizens, visitors, and employees as COVID-19 virus continues to spread across Georgia. Although no COVID-19 patients have been diagnosed in Cochran-Bleckley County, we want to ensure that protections are in place for citizens and employees. The County is aligning itself with the responses that are being put in place by other area governments.

In accordance with the Emergency Operations Plan, and in conformance with the regulations of the Georgia Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, I hereby issue a State of Emergency in Bleckley County, Georgia from 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 until further notice.

During the State of Emergency, the following actions are effective in Bleckley County:

1) A curfew will be enforced from 10:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. on each day. Exceptions will be made for travel to work, medical treatment, and for fuel, food or medicine pickup and delivery.

The goal of the curfew is to reduce the burden on public safety and health officials and to ensure the continued capability to handle the existing critical response to the virus outbreak.

2) Access to the Bleckley County Courthouse and other offices shall be restricted to “employees only” effective Tuesday, March 24, 2020 until further notice. Should you have business with any office in the courthouse, please call the appropriate number from the list below:

   Main Number  478-934-3200

   County Commissioner Option 1
   Clerk of Court Option 2
   Tax Commissioner Option 3
   Probate Court Option 4
   Magistrate Court Option 5
   Tax Assessors Option 6
   Building Inspector Option 7
   Voter Registrars Option 8
   Sheriff’s Office/Courthouse Option 9
   Law Enforcement Center Option *

3) The County requests that Bleckley County 911 dispatchers continue to inquire about known illnesses (fever, respiratory distress, etc.) at the address for which emergency or law enforcement assistance has been requested. We appreciate 911 dispatchers notifying our
responding emergency or law enforcement personnel of any such illnesses that will require special care.

4) Court dates will be rescheduled in response to the COVID-19 virus. Please contact the Clerk of Superior Court at 478-934-3200 (option 2); or, Probate Court at 478-934-3200 (option 4) to inquire about Court dates.

5) County volunteer firefighters will only respond to accident and fire calls.

6) All citizens are encouraged to follow the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, the Governor’s Office and the Georgia Department of Public Health. Practice social distancing and proper handwashing, avoid large events, stay home if sick, use hand sanitizers, and be especially protective of the elderly and chronically ill.

7) All citizens are encouraged to continue supporting our local businesses.

County officials are in regular contact with local and state agencies and our community partners to ensure that we have the most current information to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of our citizens, visitors and employees. The County will continue to monitor this rapidly changing situation and will update policies as appropriate.

Bleckley County appreciates the cooperation and compliance of all citizens with this State of Emergency.

Robert Brockman
Bleckley County Sole Commissioner

ATTEST:

Diane S. Smith
Diane S. Smith, County Clerk

March 24, 2020
Date