

COUNTY OF CHATTOOGA COUNTY
CITY OF SUMMERVILLE
CITY OF MENLO
CITY OF LYERLY
TOWN OF TRION

CHATTOOGA COUNTY LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY JOINT RESOLUTION

JOINT RESOLUTION DECLARING STATE OF EMERGENCY IN THE COUNTY OF CHATTOOGA, THE CITY OF SUMMERVILLE, THE CITY OF MENLO, THE CITY OF LYERLY AND THE TOWN OF TRION, GEORGIA ESTABLISHING THE CLOSURE OF ALL BARS AND RESTAURANTS AND PROCEDURES FOR TAKE OUT OR DELIVERY OF FOOD ONLY, BANNING GATHERINGS OF OVER TEN (10) PEOPLE, PROVIDING FOR DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION, TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, In late 2019, a new and significant outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a Novel Corona virus emerged in Wuhan, China; and

WHEREAS, The respiratory disease caused by the novel corona virus, known as “COVID-19,”
Is an infectious virus that can spread from person-to-person and can result in Serious illness or death; and

WHEREAS, The President of the United States declared COVID-19 a National Emergency on March 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has identified the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States, and has advised that the person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally , including within the United States; and

WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has noted that COVID-19 is proliferating via “community spread” meaning people have contracted the virus in areas of Georgia as a result of direct or indirect contact with infected persons, including some who are not sure how or where they became infected; and

WHEREAS, The Governor of the State of Georgia declared a Public Health State of Emergency
on March 14, 2020; and

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared COVID-19 a world health emergency and a pandemic influenza emergency; and

WHEREAS, Georgia law allows for the suspension of certain laws, rules, ordinances and orders during a declared State of Emergency, and authorizes the County and four (4) city entities to waive compliance with time-consuming procedures and formalities; O.C.G.A 38-3-1; and

WHEREAS, The Georgia Law grants to Chattooga County, the City of Summerville, The City of Menlo, The City of Lyerly and The Town of Trion the power to protect the safety, health and welfare of the public; and

WHEREAS, Georgia law also grants to Chattooga County, The City of Summerville, The City of Menlo, The City of Lyerly and The Town of Trion the power to declare an emergency and to pass all laws and ordinances they may consider necessary for the peace, good order, health, prosperity, comfort and security of the city, and of Inhabitants thereof; and

WHEREAS, The President of the United States has recommended that any gathering over 10 people be discontinued or prohibited; and

WHEREAS, The Northwest Georgia Medical and public health leaders have worked diligently and collaboratively to respond aggressively to the COVID-19 impact in Chattooga County, The City of Summerville, The City of Menlo, The City of Lyerly, the Town of Trion and surrounding communities. On March 19, 2020 a letter was sent to all Elected Officials strongly urging action to temporarily close restaurants bars and other places where individuals gather for socialization (copy of letter is attached as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein); and

WHEREAS, Chattooga County, The City of Summerville, The City of Menlo, The City of Lyerly, and The Town of Trion do not have the personnel or resources to monitor And police a distancing or gathering limitation.

NOW THEREFORE, in a public and specially called emergency meeting, authorized pursuant to O.C.G.A. 51-14-1 (G) Chattooga County, The City of Summerville, The City of Menlo, The City of Lyerly and the Town of Trion resolve and declare as follows:

Section 1: Chattooga County, The City of Summerville, The City of Menlo, The City of Lyerly, The Town of Trion adopt and make the findings discussed in the "WHEREAS" paragraphs as the factual findings of both Sole Commission and Councils.