

**PORT OF PALM BEACH DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY CONCERNING THE CORONAVIRUS
(COVID-19)
March 20, 2020**

Whereas, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

Whereas, in late 2019, a new and significant outbreak of COVID-19 emerged in China; and

Whereas, the World Health Organization previously declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and

Whereas, on March 1, 2020, the State Surgeon General and State Health Officer declared a Public Health Emergency exists in the State of Florida as a result of COVID-19; and

Whereas, March 7, 2020, the Director of the Division of Emergency Management activated the State Emergency Operations Center to Level 2 to provide coordination and response to the COVID-19 emergency; and

Whereas, the Port of Palm Beach and its cargo operators remain open for business in an effort to maintain the flow of commerce to the transportation system. All Port of Palm Beach tenants are following guidelines and restrictions directed by the United States Coast Guard and U.S Customs and Border Protection and their individual corporate policies; and

Whereas, the CDC currently recommends specific strategies for employers to use during the COVID-19 pandemic including actively encouraging sick employees to stay home, advising employees before traveling to take certain steps, performing routine environmental cleaning, asking employees to notify a supervisor if they have a sick family member at home with COVID-19 and communicating with fellow employees of possible exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace; and

Whereas, the CDC encourages employers to plan to be able to respond in a flexible way; and

Whereas, states, counties and municipalities are implementing stay at home orders to limit person to person contact; and

Whereas, on March 20, 2020, the Port of Palm Beach District Board of Commissioners authorized Port Executive Director Manuel Almira to execute a Port of Palm Beach Declaration of Emergency out of an abundance of caution for our employees and the general public.

NOW, FOR THE REASONS RECITED HEREIN, IT IS HEARBY ORDERED THAT AN EMERGENCY EXISTS IN THE PORT OF PALM BEACH DISTRICT.

Subscribed to this 20th day of March, 2020



Manuel Almira, Executive Director

