EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-2

WHEREAS, the City of Hattiesburg has declared an Emergency Declaration in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and in cases of pandemic, leaders must make strategic and operational decisions;

WHEREAS, the City of Hattiesburg has conferred with leaders from Forrest General Hospital, Hattiesburg Clinic and Merit Health Wesley throughout the COVID-19 outbreak; and has received further guidance from the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC);

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Toby Barker, Mayor of the City of Hattiesburg, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the State of Mississippi pursuant to Code Section 33-15-17 (c) (7) and in an effort to slow the spread of Covid-19 and to make common sense policy and operational decisions to that end, hereby issue the following guidelines for bars, nightclubs restaurants, coffee shops, event venues and fitness centers in the City of Hattiesburg will be implemented beginning tomorrow, March 22, 2020, and will be enforced until April 30, 2020.

• All restaurants located in the City of Hattiesburg, with or without drive-in or drive-through services, may only provide take-out, pick-up, delivery, or drive-through services as allowed by law. There shall be no in-house dining or available sitting areas for the public.

• Bars, taverns, lounges and nightclubs shall close, except to the extent that such establishments may only provide take-out, pick-up, delivery, or drive-through services for food as allowed by law.

• Public and common areas in malls, including food courts, shall close.

• Entertainment venues, such as skating rinks and bowling alleys, shall close.

• Movie theaters shall remain closed until April 30, 2020.

• All dance hall permits remain suspended.

• There shall be no gatherings of more than 10 people for any event. This includes, but is not limited to, church services, weddings, concerts and other entertainment events.

• Funerals shall also be limited to 10 or fewer people. Graveside services are encouraged; however, indoor services and viewings are permitted, as long as there are 10 or fewer people inside at one time. Funeral home directors are encouraged to livestream services for those who cannot attend. Funeral home directors should also follow all CDC guidelines as it relates to visitations, viewings and funerals.

• All gyms and fitness centers shall be closed.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Toby Barker, Mayor of the City of Hattiesburg, also hereby order that this executive order (EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-2) amends EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-1, issued on Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

Toby Barker, Mayor

ATTEST: Kermas Eaton, City Clerk