A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR DECLARING A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY, PURSUANT TO CITY CODE CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE VIII, DIVISION 2, DUE TO COVID-19.

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, 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, on March 9, 2020, pursuant to executive order 20-52, the Governor of the state of Florida declared a state of emergency throughout the state due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in Pinellas County and could spread to residents or visitors to the city of St. Petersburg, Florida (the "City"); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor finds that the COVID-19 poses an immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare that requires emergency action; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor finds that declaring a state of local emergency pursuant to St. Petersburg City Code section 2-425(c) will facilitate the City's efforts to prepare for potential injury or loss of life within the City as a result of COVID-19 and is, therefore, necessary to protect the public interest; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor finds that the procedure used to make this proclamation is fair under the circumstances.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS PROCLAIMED** by the Mayor of the City of St. Petersburg, Florida, that, in consideration of the findings set forth above and pursuant to City Code section 2-425(c), a state of local emergency is hereby declared within the municipal boundaries of the City due to COVID-19 (the "Emergency").

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that the Emergency is effective as of March 12, 2020, at 5:00 pm, and will continue in effect for a seven-day period unless terminated or extended in accordance with City Code section 2-425(c).

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**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that, pursuant to this declaration, certain emergency powers made available to the Mayor by City Code chapter 2, article VIII, division 2, may be initiated by one or more written orders of the Mayor in accordance with that division and other applicable law.

This proclamation will be filed with the Clerk at the earliest practicable time.

Sign:

Rick Kriseman, Mayor



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Sign:

Name: <u>(han</u>

Date:

3/12/20

Title: