LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER ORDER
LHO 2/25/21

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This Emergency Public Health Order is issued to mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic in Wyandotte County, Kansas, pursuant to the authority provided in K.S.A. 65-119, K.S.A. 65-129b, K.S.A. 65-202 and other applicable laws or regulations.

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WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 presents a substantial threat to the health of the Greater Kansas City area communities of Missouri and Kansas; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government, the State of Kansas and the Unified Government of Kansas City/Wyandotte County, Kansas have all entered declarations that a disaster had occurred, acknowledging the threat within Wyandotte County, Kansas as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) and the confirmed outbreak and person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in the United States, State of Kansas and Wyandotte County; and

WHEREAS, The most recent White House Coronavirus Task Force reports for Missouri and Kansas have advised that counties in the metropolitan area and in adjacent rural areas of Missouri and Kansas should adopt practices including, but not limited to, limiting indoor dining and drinking at restaurants and taverns to reduced capacities and restricting hours until cases and test positivity decrease is effective at decreasing infections; communicating to the public they should not gather with anyone who does not live with them; and that members of the public should always wear masks in public spaces; and

WHEREAS, On November 20, 2020, LHO 11/20/20 was issued placing capacity restrictions on entertainment venues as well as bars and restaurants; and

WHEREAS, LHO 11/20/20 required restaurants and bars close to public occupancy at 10:00 pm each night; and

WHEREAS, LHO 11/20/20 was amended in LHO 1/12/21 requiring restaurants and bars close to public occupancy at 12:00 am each night; and

WHEREAS, bars and restaurants in Wyandotte County have continually committed to following all Local Health Orders including spacing and mask wearing requirements in order to keep patrons safe

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the Local Health Officer, pursuant to the above that LHO 11/20/20 is amended as follows:

1. Restaurants, taverns, and all other such businesses licensed to serve food, drink and/or alcohol, including public, private, or membership-only businesses may operate for indoor dining and drinking during all hours the establishment is currently licensed to be open for business.
Provided:
   a. Patrons must remain seated to the greatest extent possible, and masked except when actively eating or drinking;
   b. Indoor and outdoor parties are limited to eight (8) or fewer persons; and
   c. Parties shall be spaced with no less than six feet of distance between themselves and individuals from any other parties.
   d. The establishment shall continue to limit the number of occupants to 50 percent of the building occupancy.

2. All other Orders within LHO 11/20/20 remain in effect until extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Local Health Officer.

3. LHO 1/12/21 is rescinded.

4. Pursuant to K.S.A. 65-129b, any sheriff, deputy sheriff, health inspector, or other law enforcement officer of any political subdivision within Wyandotte County, Kansas is hereby ordered to assist in the execution or enforcement of this Order, as amended or modified, as well as all other orders of the Local Health Officer not otherwise rescinded or superseded. Violation of this Order is a violation of Ordinance 17-7 and is a Class C Misdemeanor punishable by a maximum fine of $500 and a 30-day jail sentence.

5. This Order shall be effective at 11:59 p.m., on February 25, 2021, and will continue to be in effect until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Local Health Officer.

6. This Order supersedes any other Local Health Order to the contrary. If any provision of this Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.

7. This Order shall be known and referred to as LHO 02/25/21.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 25TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2021

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