

**EMERGENCY POWERS (COVID 19) (LOCKDOWN)
(NO. 9) ORDER, 2020**

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**EMERGENCY POWERS (COVID 19) REGULATIONS, 2020
(CHAPTER 34)**

**EMERGENCY POWERS (COVID 19) (LOCKDOWN) (NO. 9)
ORDER, 2020**

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by the Emergency Powers (Covid 19) Regulations, 2020, I HEREBY make the following Order for every island and cay in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas except for North Bimini and South Bimini —

1. Citation.

This Order may be cited as the Emergency Powers (Covid 19) (Lockdown) (No. 9) Order, 2020.

2. Lockdown.

- (1) Effective 9:00 pm Friday, 29th May, 2020 until 5:00 am Tuesday 2nd June, 2020, every agency, business, establishment or undertaking, other than the following, shall remain closed —
- (a) The Princess Margaret Hospital;
 - (b) The Rand Memorial Hospital;
 - (c) Doctors Hospital (Shirley Street and Blake Road);
 - (d) Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre;
 - (e) any hotel with guests;
 - (f) The Royal Bahamas Police Force;
 - (g) The Royal Bahamas Defence Force;
 - (h) Operation Bahamas Turks and Caicos (OPBAT);
 - (i) The Department of Correctional Services;
 - (j) The Department of Immigration;
 - (k) The Customs Department;
 - (l) the Bahamas Civil Aviation Authority (air traffic controllers);
 - (m) The Ministry of the Environment and Housing;
 - (n) waste disposal and sanitation services;
 - (o) non-governmental organisations for home delivery of emergency food and medical supplies;
 - (p) a business licensed to provide security guard services;

- (q) essential workers, including contractors or subcontractors, in any public or privately owned utility provider of water, electricity or electronic communications sector, including the print and electronic news media;
 - (r) ports of entry, container ports, freight forwarders and private terminals for the conduct, where applicable, of basic port maintenance services (inclusive of garbage removal), domestic trade, imports and exports of containerised freight, and the import, treatment, bunkering and export of oil products;
 - (s) any public or privately owned terminal and ancillary or support services for the receipt of imported wholesale petroleum products for domestic consumption, for the purpose of the storage and onward delivery of the same to any public or private entity for utility or retail distribution throughout The Bahamas over land or by barges;
 - (t) PharmChem Technologies G.B. Ltd;
 - (u) Bahamas National Trust (including officers, managers and park wardens).
- (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a healthcare worker may conduct home visits to members of the general public for the purpose of providing medical or therapeutic care.
- (3) No person, except an essential worker for a business or establishment listed in paragraph (1), shall leave his place of residence for any purpose whatsoever, other than for the purpose of seeking urgent medical care at a hospital specified in paragraph (1).
- (4) Any person who contravenes this Order commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars or to a term of imprisonment for a term not exceeding eighteen months or to both in accordance with regulation 23 of the Emergency Powers (Covid 19) Regulations, 2020¹.

3. Opening of grocery stores, pharmacies, etc.

- (1) Notwithstanding order 2 —
- (a) grocery stores shall open on Saturday 30th May, 2020, from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm and shall only allow entrance, upon presentation of employment identification, to the persons employed in the following services and undertakings —
 - (i) between the hours of 6:00 am and 12:00 pm —

¹S. I. No. 21 of 2020.

- (aa) The Royal Bahamas Police Force;
 - (bb) The Royal Bahamas Defence Force; and
 - (cc) healthcare workers;
 - (dd) essential workers in any clearing bank credit union and the financial services sector, generally;
 - (ee) Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre;
 - (ii) between the hours of 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm —
 - (aa) Fire Services;
 - (bb) the Department of Correctional Services;
 - (cc) the National Insurance Board;
 - (dd) the Ministry of Social Services;
 - (ee) the Ministry of the Environment and Housing;
 - (ff) the Department of Immigration;
 - (gg) the Customs Department;
 - (hh) the Registrar General's Department;
 - (ii) the Magistrate Court and Supreme Court (essential workers);
 - (jj) waste disposal and sanitation services;
 - (kk) wholesale grocers;
 - (ll) any public or privately owned utility provider of water, electricity or electronic communications, including the print and electronic news media (essential workers);
 - (b) pharmacies shall open on Saturday 30th May, 2020 between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, and shall only allow entrance, upon presentation of employment identification, to the persons referred to in subparagraphs (a)(i) and (ii);
 - (c) grocery stores, wholesale grocers, wholesale bakeries and water production companies shall be permitted to open for the restocking of food and water;
 - (d) the farmer's market on Gladstone Road, shall be permitted to operate on Saturday 30th May, 2020 between the hours of 7:00 am and 5:00 pm and shall only serve, upon presentation of employment identification, to the persons referred to in subparagraphs (a) (i) and (ii); and
 - (e) suppliers of propane cooking gas shall be permitted to operate between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- (2) Grocery stores shall be permitted to open to the general public on all islands to which this Order applies except New Providence and Grand

Bahama, on Saturday 30th May, 2020 between the hours of 6:00 am and 6:00 pm.

4. Whit Monday.

- (1) Notwithstanding order 2, the following establishments, and businesses shall be permitted to open to the general public on Monday 1st June, 2020
 - (a) wholesale or retail grocery stores from 6:00 am to 7:30 pm;
 - (b) restaurants with curbside or delivery service from 6:00 am to 7:30 pm;
 - (c) drive thru and takeaway vendors from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm; and
 - (d) pharmacies from 6:00 am to 5:00 pm.
- (2) Notwithstanding order 2, reconstruction and repairs shall be permitted in Grand Bahama and Abaco and its cays.

5. Religious instruction.

- (1) Notwithstanding order 2 —
 - (a) churches that conduct services on Sundays shall be permitted to operate on Sunday 31st May, 2020;
 - (b) churches that conduct services on Saturdays shall be permitted to operate on Saturday 30th May, 2020,
between the hours of 7:00 am and 1:00 pm in accordance with the protocol set forth in the *Schedule*.
- (2) Every person in attendance at a church service referred to in paragraph (1) must immediately return to their place of residence at the conclusion of the service.

6. Harvesting of land crabs.

Notwithstanding order 2, harvesting of land crabs is permitted on the islands listed in the *Second Schedule* of the Emergency Powers (Covid 19) (No. 4) Order, 2020.

7. Construction.

Notwithstanding order 2, construction shall be permitted on the islands to which this Order applies on Saturday 30th May, 2020 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

8. Exercise.

Notwithstanding order 2, a person is permitted to exercise in his immediate neighbourhood on Saturday 30th May, 2020, Sunday 31st May, 2020 and Monday 1st June, 2020 between the hours of 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

9. Grand Bahama.

Notwithstanding order 2, the following businesses, undertakings, services and activities on the island of Grand Bahama are permitted to continue in operation —

- (a) non-governmental organisations for the production and provision of water;
- (b) water depots;
- (c) waste disposal and sanitation services;
- (d) gas stations, between the hours of 6:00 am and 7:00 pm;
- (e) well drilling by Waugh Construction.

10. Abaco.

Notwithstanding order 2, the following businesses and undertakings in Abaco are permitted to continue in operation —

- (a) gas stations, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., for the purpose of refuelling generators;
- (b) non-governmental organisations for the production and provision of water.

11. Event of emergency.

In the event of an emergency, a person shall seek the permission of the Commissioner of Police to leave his place of residence by calling 311 or the nearest police station.

12. Emergency Powers (Covid 19)(No. 4) Order, 2020.

For the avoidance of doubt —

- (a) this Order shall apply to every establishment or business permitted to operate pursuant to order 4 of the Emergency Powers (Covid 19) (No. 4) Order, 2020;
- (b) the Emergency Powers (Covid 19)(No. 4) Order, 2020 as amended from time to time, shall continue to have effect subject to this Order; and

- (c) the physical distancing protocols and requirement to wear a face mask provided in the Emergency Powers (Covid 19)(No. 4) Order, 2020, shall apply to this Order.

SCHEDULE

(order 5)

A. Protocol For Churches Situate In Islands Listed In The Second Schedule To The Emergency Powers (Covid 19) (No. 4) Order, 2020.

Subject to this protocol, a church situated in any of the islands listed in the *Second Schedule* to the Emergency Powers (Covid 19) (No. 4) Order, 2020 shall be permitted to hold services in accordance with order 5.

1. Services may be held in the sanctuary subject to the following —
 - (a) services may be conducted between the hours of 7:00 am and 1:00 pm but must be limited to one hour per service;
 - (b) multiple services may be held during the hours of 7:00 am and 1:00 pm to accommodate the membership of the church;
 - (c) all persons participating and attending must adhere to physical distancing, hygiene, and sanitisation protocols;
 - (d) persons must sit no less than six feet apart, except if they are from the same immediate household;
 - (e) persons are to remain in or at their seats during the service except for the carrying out of the ceremony and activity outlined in paragraphs (3) and (4).
 - (f) all persons must wear masks.
2. There shall be no Sunday School or Sabbath School.
3. Elements of communion shall be distributed subject to the following conditions —
 - (a) communion should be distributed in disposable packaging; and
 - (b) a person distributing communion must wear a mask and gloves and must exercise proper hygiene and sanitisation.

4. Tithes or offerings may only be collected subject to the following conditions —
 - (a) one offering basket must be placed in a stationary position;
 - (b) for the purposes of handing in tithes or offering, a line must be formed maintaining a distance of six feet between each person;
 - (c) the passing of baskets is prohibited.
5. The church is responsible for providing hand sanitisation at each entrance to the church.
6. Persons that are in high risk categories, that is being aged sixty-five (65) years or older or having any comorbidity, are asked not to attend.

B. Protocol For Churches Situate On All Other Islands To Which This Order Applied

Subject to this protocol, a church situated in any of the other islands to which this Order applies shall be permitted to hold services in accordance with order 5.

1. Services may only be held as drive up service where attendees are seated in their vehicles subject to the following conditions —
 - (a) vehicles must be parked no less than six feet apart;
 - (b) adequate parking must be available to accommodate the drive up service;
 - (c) services may be conducted between the hours of 7:00 am and 1:00 pm but must be limited to one hour per service;
 - (d) multiple services may be held during the hours of 7:00 am and 1:00 pm to accommodate the membership of the church;
 - (e) vehicles may only have a maximum of four persons who reside in the same household;
 - (f) where a household has more than four persons, the church leader is to issue a clear sign to be displayed visibly on the dashboard of the vehicle indicating that the church is familiar with the family and the immediate members exceeds four persons.
2. There shall be no communion service.
3. Offerings may be collected subject to the following conditions —
 - (a) one offering basket must be placed in a stationary position;

- (b) for the purposes of handing in tithes or offerings, a line must be formed maintaining a distance of six feet between each person;
 - (c) the passing of baskets is prohibited.
4. Persons that are in high risk categories, that is being aged sixty-five (65) years or older or having any comorbidity, are asked not to attend.

Made this 29th day of May, 2020



PRIME MINISTER