

**EMERGENCY ORDERS FOR ALTUS, OKLAHOMA
ISSUED BY MAYOR JACK SMILEY
EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 22nd, 2020, AT 12:01 O’CLOCK A.M.**

WHEREAS, the Altus Municipal Code, Part II, §14-1 through §14-12, and specifically §14-6 and §14-7, empowers the Mayor of the City of Altus (“City”) to proclaim the existence of an emergency and to issue emergency orders during a declared emergency; and,

WHEREAS, an emergency has been declared and the Altus City Council has extended the emergency period pursuant to AMC § 14-9; and,

WHEREAS, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH), and Jackson County Memorial Hospital (JCMH) have recommended certain precautions and measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to avert unmanageable surges in the local healthcare system; and,

WHEREAS, a significant increase in positive cases of COVID-19 continues in Altus and throughout the surrounding area of Southwest Oklahoma; and,

WHEREAS, protection of the health, safety and welfare of Altus citizens and visitors to the City of Altus, as well as support of the local economy and businesses is of paramount concern and importance; and

WHEREAS, Title 11 O.S. §22-120 permits, without limitation, the enactment of ordinances, rules and regulations that are not inconsistent with state law and are deemed necessary for the protection of the public health; and,

WHEREAS, on December 14th, 2020, Oklahoma Governor J. Kevin Stitt issued his Eighth Amended Executive Order 2020-20.

NOW THEREFORE, Jack Smiley, the Mayor of Altus, Oklahoma issues the following emergency orders and recommendations.

EMERGENCY ORDERS

The following Orders must be followed. Violation of these orders is a misdemeanor.

1. PRIOR EMERGENCY ORDERS WITHDRAWN. All previous emergency orders are withdrawn and these emergency orders control.
2. PUNISHMENT FOR VIOLATION. Violation of these emergency orders is punishable under Altus Municipal Code § 1-13(e) by a fine or deferral fee not exceeding \$750.00, including costs, or by imprisonment not exceeding 60 days, or both.
3. FACE COVERINGS.
 - 3.01. Face coverings **must** be worn over the nose and mouth in all indoor public places, (examples, without limitation, are: retail stores, restaurants, bars, and any other businesses serving the public) within the city limits of Altus and in all City facilities.
 - 3.02. Face coverings **must** also be worn at all times in all outdoor public areas within Altus city limits when social distancing of at least six (6) feet cannot be maintained between persons not residing in the same household.
4. FACE COVERING EXCEPTIONS. The following persons, locations and activities are exempted from the face covering requirement:
 - 4.01. Persons who should not wear face coverings due to a medical or mental health condition or developmental disability under the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) guidelines.

- 4.02. Persons exempt under the American's with Disabilities Act (ADA).
 - 4.03. Children under five (5) years of age.
 - 4.04. Restaurant and bar patrons while in the act of eating or drinking.
 - 4.05. Settings when or where it is not practical or feasible to wear a face covering, for example: patients who are in the act of receiving dental services or other medical treatments requiring access to the face of the patient or while swimming.
 - 4.06. Occupants in a personal vehicle, personal office, or similarly private space while other persons outside of the person's household are not present.
 - 4.07. Private homes.
 - 4.08. Offices and workplaces that are not public service areas where social distancing of at least six (6) feet between employees and other occupants can be consistently maintained during hours of operation.
 - 4.09. Persons attending any indoor religious service or ceremony as long as all persons who do not live in the same household maintain proper social distancing of not less than six (6) feet from persons not in their immediate household.
 - 4.10. Educational institutions that have adopted a plan to prevent the spread of COVID-19 that includes physical distancing and face covering mandates appropriate for the institutional environment.
5. RESTAURANTS AND BARS.
- 5.01. Restaurants and bars shall ensure a minimum of six (6) feet of separation between parties or groups at different tables, booths, or bar tops, unless the areas are separated by properly sanitized glass or plexiglass.
6. WORSHIP SERVICES. All worship services within the Altus city limits must comply with CDC guidelines for social distancing and sanitization. If social distancing is maintained then masks are not required during actual services. Social distancing is not required during the actual services for members of the same household seated/standing together.
7. SPORTING EVENTS. Attendance at indoor youth sports and extracurricular activities, including those organized through or sponsored by a public or private school, shall be limited to four spectators per participant up to fifty percent (50%) of the building or area's permitted occupancy as set forth in the Certificate of Occupancy or other building permit for use and occupancy of the building or area.
8. SOCIAL GATHERINGS. Public and social gatherings of persons not from the same household shall be limited to fifty percent (50%) of the building or area's permitted occupancy as set forth in the Certificate of Occupancy or other building permit for use and occupancy of the building or area. Public and social gatherings shall mean a gathering or organized event among persons not part of the same household. This provision shall not apply to gatherings in a private residence, buildings or businesses providing religious, healthcare, educational, public safety, and childcare services and restaurants and bars.
9. GYMS AND WORKOUT FACILITIES. All gyms and workout facilities within the Altus city limits must restrict occupancy to fifty percent (50%) of normal, permissible capacity and must comply with CDC guidelines for social distancing and sanitization; EXCEPT, if social distancing is maintained masks are not required during actual workout.
10. PERMITS AND TOURS. All City issued permits for parades, activities or other gatherings are revoked. All tours and field trips of City facilities are immediately suspended.

9. CDC/OSDH GUIDELINES FOR COVID-19 ARE ADOPTED IN PART. Altus adopts the CDC and OSDH guidelines and recommendations for isolation and quarantine pertaining to COVID-19.
10. FOOD SERVICE AND PROCESSING PERSONNEL. All personnel engaged in any aspect of food service or processing exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 infection, or that are COVID-19 positive, must cease food service or processing immediately.
11. HOARDING. No business may allow hoarding of essential items and no person may hoard essential items.
12. INSPECTION BY THE CITY. All businesses may be inspected by the City to ensure compliance with these emergency orders.
13. PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT CLOSED. City parks are open BUT all playground, recreation and fitness equipment on or within the playgrounds are closed.
14. SANITIZATION THAT MUST BE PROVIDED TO CUSTOMERS. All businesses must make hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes available to customers OR must sanitize all common use areas or items between each customer use or at least twice per hour, whichever is greater.
15. EMERGENCY PERSONNEL EXCEPTION. These emergency orders do not apply to emergency services and emergency services personnel in the performance of their job functions and duties UNLESS the person is subject to orders for isolation or quarantine that may apply.

WITNESS my hand as Mayor of the city of Altus, Jackson County, Oklahoma, and affixed thereto on this the 21st day of December, 2020.



Jack Smiley, Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Davis, City Clerk-Treasurer

Approved as to Form and Legality:

12/21/2020 10:08p
Michael T. Beason, City Attorney