

**AMENDED DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY
(COVID-19 Virus)
(Virginia Code § 44-146.21)**

COVID-19 is a communicable disease that was declared by the World Health Organization (“WHO”) to be a “public health emergency of international concern” on January 30, 2020, and its spread was characterized by the WHO as a pandemic on March 11, 2020.

On March 12, 2020, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia issued a Declaration of a State of Emergency related to COVID-19, and that declaration states that the “anticipated effects of COVID-19 constitute a disaster as described” in Virginia Code § 44-146.16, and a “communicable disease of public health threat,” a term that is also defined in Virginia Code § 44-146.16.

As the County Executive and Director of Emergency Management for the County of Albemarle, Virginia, I find the imminent threat to the public health and safety of the residents of Albemarle County posed by the COVID-19 virus to be of sufficient severity and magnitude to be an emergency and a disaster, as those terms are defined in Virginia Code § 44-146.16, and to warrant coordinated local government action to prevent or alleviate any potential damage, hardship, suffering, or possible loss of life. Therefore, pursuant to Virginia Code § 44-146.21, this Amended Declaration becomes effective on March 20, 2020 at ____ p.m. and supersedes the Declaration of Local Emergency issued by me on March 12, 2020.

In accordance with this Amended Declaration, the Regional Emergency Operations Plan is activated, furnishing aid and assistance under the Plan are authorized, and all appropriate County departments and agencies are hereby vested with, and authorized to carry out, all powers, duties and functions prescribed by State and local laws, rules, regulations, and plans as may be necessary to adequately and appropriately respond to the Local Emergency by providing emergency services and emergency assistance, and by taking emergency actions.

Jeffrey B. Richardson, County Executive and
Director of Emergency Management
County of Albemarle, Virginia

Date