



Town of South Kingstown, Rhode Island

Office of the Town Manager

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Robert C. Zarnetske
Town Manager

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-12 (AMENDED)

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of South Kingstown declared a state of emergency through an emergency ordinance enacted on March 15, 2020 to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council delegated emergency authority to the Town Manager to take measures he deems necessary in order to protect public health and safety in response to the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the emergency power delegated, and state of emergency declared by the Town Council has been continued in effect inclusive of the current date; and

WHEREAS, social distancing is the most effective and important tool available to combat the spread of the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order 20-58 issued by Governor Gina Raimondo on July 29, 2020, all indoor and outdoor social gatherings of more than 15 people in any public or private space are prohibited; and

WHEREAS, the University of Rhode Island (URI) has announced that although residence halls will be open in fall 2020, fewer students will be living in on-campus housing; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has cited research indicating that young, healthy adults with COVID-19 might have mild or no symptoms; and

WHEREAS, social activities among college students and other young adults must adhere to public health guidelines so that the spread of COVID-19 can be limited; and

WHEREAS, a local order is needed both to aid local enforcement of social gathering limits and to make URI students fully aware that the social gathering limits are applicable to their parties and other social gatherings;

WHEREAS, a prior order issued on August 26th has been determined to be broader than necessary to achieve the public health objective of preventing the spread of COVID-19 at large gatherings.

NOW THEREFORE, Executive Order 2020-12 is hereby amended and replaced in its entirety, and the following emergency measures are enacted as of Friday, August 28, 2020:

1. All indoor social gatherings of more than fifteen (15) people in any public or private space are prohibited. Notwithstanding these restrictions, indoor social gatherings in a restaurant or with licensed catering on site such as weddings may have up to fifty (50) people, provided that restaurant rules are applied. The lower attendance at such events, the lower the risk.
2. All outdoor social gatherings of more than fifteen (15) people in any public or private space are prohibited. Notwithstanding these restrictions, outdoor social gatherings at a restaurant or with licensed catering on site such as weddings may have up to one hundred (100) people, provided that restaurant rules are applied. The lower attendance at such events, the lower the risk. The Department of Business Regulation may grant exceptions to booked outdoor weddings at a restaurant or with licensed catering on site with more than 100 people.
3. Violation of this executive order may be punished by a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500) for anyone organizing or hosting such a gathering and a fine of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for anyone attending such a gathering. Additionally, landlords and all other parties to the lease agreements for properties at which gatherings occur in violation of this executive order may be punished by a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500).
4. The South Kingstown Police may enforce this order by all reasonable means, including issuing an order requiring the gathering to be disbanded and issuing a citation to any violators.
5. This executive order shall remain in effect until September 29, 2020, unless terminated prior to that date by a subsequent order. This executive order may be further extended if necessary, by a subsequent executive order. To the extent that this executive order is in any manner inconsistent with any prior executive order of the South Kingstown Town Manager, the terms of this executive order shall govern. To the extent that this executive order is in any manner inconsistent with any subsequent executive order of the Governor of Rhode Island, the Governor's executive order shall govern. Any exceptions from the social gathering limits established by executive order by the Governor of the State of Rhode Island shall also apply to the social gathering limits established by this executive order.

Attest:



Robert C. Zarnetske, Town Manager



Susan M. Flynn, Town Clerk

Effective Date: August 28, 2020