



**CITY OF NEW HAVEN**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**New Haven, Hartford, Hamden and Bridgeport Mayors Sign Emergency Order  
Prohibiting Gatherings of More than Ten Individuals**

NEW HAVEN, Conn. – Today New Haven Mayor Justin Elicker, Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin, Hamden Mayor Curt Leng, and Bridgeport Mayor Joe Ganim signed emergency orders in response to the rapidly growing COVID-19 pandemic, which would prohibit gatherings of more than ten individuals. The New Haven order largely mirrors Governor Lamont’s previous order limiting social and recreational activities to fifty people but reduces the total number to a maximum of ten. Social gatherings in the order include but are not limited to, community, civic, leisure, and sporting events; parades; concerts; festivals; movie screenings; plays or performances, conventions, and similar activities. The order further states that this provision shall not apply to childcare centers caring for more than twelve children of health care providers and first responders.

Mayor Elicker released the following statement:

We have learned from other communities that are suffering greatly from the impacts of COVID-19 that we must act quickly to dramatically reduce gatherings and close interactions between people in order to slow the spread of the virus. I did not make this decision lightly and understand the significant impact it has on our businesses. But the long-term economic impact will be much greater if we do not act quickly. I’m grateful to our business partners for responding so quickly to these orders. I am grateful for the collaboration with our municipal partners and have been in conversations with other municipalities who are considering similar steps. We are in this together.

Municipal chief executives across the State are deeply concerned about the health of their residents in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. We have over 10,000 cases in the country and are seeing our first deaths from the virus in Connecticut. These orders are to be taken seriously, and we will be enforcing them across the City.

Read below for the full text of the emergency order, or follow this link: <http://bit.ly/EO319>

**EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 4 REGARDING  
GATHERINGS OF MORE THAN TEN INDIVIDUALS  
IN THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN**

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of the State of Connecticut declared a public health emergency and a civil preparedness emergency for the State of Connecticut, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Sections 19a-131 and 28-9, in response to the global pandemic of COVID-19 disease associated with a novel coronavirus that is currently affecting multiple countries and states; and,

**WHEREAS**, on March 12, 2020 the Governor of the State of Connecticut issued Executive Order Number 7, limiting the number of individuals that may convene, meet or otherwise gather throughout the State, to no more than 250 people or more for social and recreational activities including, but not limited to, community, civic, leisure, or sporting events; parades; concerts; festivals; movie screenings; plays or performances; conventions; and similar activities; and,

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency to combat the coronavirus that is currently infecting the population of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 15, 2020, the Mayor of the City of New Haven, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Sections 28-8a(a), 28-1(8), and 28-22, and Chapter 11, Section 11-23 et. seq. of the Code of General Ordinances of the City of New Haven, declared a state of emergency, due to the significant danger to public health posed by the spread of COVID-19 and shortages of supplies and equipment necessary to protect the public health and safety, and the spread of COVID-19 to residents of the City of New Haven as a result of the global pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020 the Governor of the State of Connecticut amended and modified his Executive Order Number 7 with Executive Order Number 7D, to require that all such gatherings as contemplated and addressed by Executive Order Number 7 be limited to no more than 50 or more people.

**WHEREAS**, due to the significant adverse impact on public health of COVID-19, and the acceleration of the spread of the disease, the Mayor must take action for the purpose of ensuring civil preparedness and mitigating the adverse effects of this emergency situation upon the residents of New Haven; and

**WHEREAS**, among best practices and prescribed measures of mitigation in light of this public health emergency is social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to decompress certain gatherings so as to promote, encourage, allow for and/or create social distancing to combat the transmission of Coronavirus which poses a substantial threat to the public health of the City of New Haven; and,

**WHEREAS**, the powers granted by Connecticut General Statutes Sections 28-8a(a), 28-1(8), and 28-22, and Chapter 11, Sections 6, 7 and 11-23 et. seq. of the Code of General Ordinances of the City of New Haven, proclaim said Mayor to have and exercise all executive and administrative powers conferred upon any municipal chief executive; and

**WHEREAS**, the duties assigned by the City Charter to the Mayor of the City of New Haven require said Mayor to cause the Charter, the Ordinances and laws to be executed and enforced, and to conserve the

*peace within the City. The Mayor shall be responsible for the good order and efficient government of the City; and*

***WHEREAS**, in response to the issuance of declarations of a public health emergency and a civil preparedness emergency, a declaration of national emergency and the spread of COVID-19 to residents of the City of New Haven; and*

***WHEREAS**, it is in the best interests of the City and People of New Haven to promote public health and to ensure civil preparedness, to minimize the adverse impact and substantial threat to public health created by the current public health emergency and civil preparedness emergency posed by the spread of COVID-19.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that, pursuant to the powers and duties granted in the Connecticut General Statutes and the Code of Ordinances of the City of New Haven, in response to the civil preparedness and public health emergency now facing the City of New Haven, and in accordance with the advice from the City's public health officials, effective on Friday, March 20, 2020 at 12:01 a.m., gatherings of more than 10 people for social and recreational activities, including but not limited to, community, civic, leisure, and sporting events; parades; concerts; festivals; movie screenings; plays or performances; conventions; and similar activities, are prohibited;*

***NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that the provisions of this order shall not apply to childcare centers caring for more than 12 children of health care providers or first responders; and*

***IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that, order shall remain in effect until September 19, 2020, (the "effective period") unless amended or earlier terminated; and*

***IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that this order will be made publicly available for inspection and review in the Office of the Town Clerk of the City of New Haven and shall be posted on the City of New Haven website.*

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