MIAMI-DADE COUNTY EMERGENCY ORDER 14-20

WHEREAS, section 252.38(3)(a), Florida Statutes, gives political subdivisions the authority to declare and enact a State of Local Emergency for a period of up to seven days, thereby waiving the procedures and formalities otherwise required of the political subdivision by law; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, the Governor of Florida issued Executive Order Number 20-51, directing the State Health Officer and Surgeon General to declare a Public Health Emergency due to the discovery of COVID-19/novel Coronavirus in Florida; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Governor of Florida issued Executive Order Number 20-52, declaring a State of Emergency for the state of Florida related to COVID-19/novel Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the County Mayor declared a State of Emergency for all of Miami-Dade County (the “County”); and

WHEREAS, COVID-19/novel Coronavirus poses a health risk to County residents, particularly elderly residents and those who are immunosuppressed or otherwise have high-risk medical conditions; and

WHEREAS, minimization of contact is necessary to avoid risk of COVID-19 infection for the residents of the County; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has issued guidance entitled “15 Days to Slow the Spread,” encouraging social distancing and maintaining a six foot separation between persons to slow the spread of infection; and

WHEREAS, Emergency Order 07-20, as amended, allows for contractors to provide repair and services to homes and other structures, and allows work to continue on open construction sites; and

WHEREAS, during the past two weeks a number of County employees of the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department who report to or work from the Permitting and Inspection Center located at 11805 SW 26th Street Miami, Florida tested positive for the COVID-19/novel Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, approximately 400 County employees report to or work from the Permitting and Inspection Center; and
WHEREAS, County building code inspectors almost exclusively report to or work from the Permitting and Inspection Center; and

WHEREAS, the job duties and responsibilities of County building code inspectors is to work out in the public and inspect residential and commercial construction projects to ensure such projects are in compliance with the Florida Building Code; and

WHEREAS, after becoming aware that a number of employees reporting to or working from the Permitting and Inspection Center tested positive for the COVID-19/novel Coronavirus, the Florida Department of Health recommended that the County close the Permitting and Inspection Center and that employees reporting to or working from the Permitting and Inspection Center self-isolate for two weeks; and

WHEREAS, following the recommendations of public health officials, as County Mayor, I closed the Permitting and Inspection Center on March 25, 2020 for a two-week period ending April 7, 2020 and instructed all employees that are based out of the Permitting and Inspection Center to self-isolate for two weeks,

THEREFORE, as County Mayor of Miami-Dade County, I hereby order as follows:

1. All laws, statutes, codes and regulations relating to County employees performing building code functions are suspended, including, but not limited to, the review of plans, issuance of permits, performance of inspections and issuance of certificates of occupancy and completion and temporary certificates of occupancy, and all activities related thereto. I further suspend all laws applicable to the County which are inconsistent with the provisions of this order, including, but not limited to, the requirements to receive and process manually executed plans and the qualifications of personnel to perform building code related services.

2. County employees shall not provide building code inspection services to the public except in accordance with the provisions of this order. To allow for the continuation of construction consistent with the public health, safety and welfare, and in consultation with the Miami-Dade County Building Official, the County hereby adopts the emergency procedures which are attached to this order as Exhibit 1.

3. This order applies to the Unincorporated Municipal Services Area (UMSA) of Miami-Dade County and all other areas within municipalities under the jurisdiction of the Miami-Dade County Building Official. This order does not and is not intended to bind municipal Building Officials’ performance of building code related services within the areas of their jurisdiction.

4. This order shall expire upon the expiration of the existing Miami-Dade County State of Local Emergency, except that if such State of Local Emergency is extended, this order shall also be deemed to extend for the duration of such extension. This order may be cancelled earlier by action of the County Mayor.
Miami-Dade County Declaration of Local State of Emergency

5. I intend to extend this order, by one or more subsequent orders, through a date not earlier than April 7, 2020.

6. This order shall be effective immediately.

7. This order shall be provided to all appropriate media consistent with the requirements of section 8B-7(2)(n) of the Code of Miami-Dade County.

Enacted: [Signature]
Signed: COUNTY MAYOR

Date: 3/28/2020 Time: 16:30
Witness: [Signature]

Cancelled: [Signature]
Signed: COUNTY MAYOR

Date: ______ Time: __:__
Witness: __________________________

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STATEMENT OF INSPECTION REPORT COVID-19

This report is to be used for Building Code inspections during the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources' (RER) suspension of Building trades inspection services due to the COVID-19 Emergency Period. This notice does not set forth procedures for Fire Code inspections. This report must be provided via email to the trade section supervisor or to the inspector at the next scheduled inspection once regular inspection services resume.

PERMIT ___________________________ JOB ADDRESS ___________________________

The following inspection for the above permit were performed and signed by the below design professional or contractor:

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<th>INSPECTION TYPE*</th>
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<th>(APPROVED, DIS APPROVED or APPROVED PARTIAL)</th>
<th>COMMENT</th>
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*Type of inspection listed on the permit card

I __________________________ have read the procedures for building code inspections during the COVID-19 Emergency Period. Having performed the above required inspections, I hereby attest that to the best of my knowledge, belief and professional judgment, the components of the construction are in compliance with the approved plans and other documents covered by the above referenced permit, as well as the provisions of all applicable laws and technical codes.

I am not the permit holder. Additionally, I hold no financial interest in the construction. I acknowledge that the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources will rely on the truth and accuracy of this statement. I hereby certify that I hold the appropriate license and certification to perform the inspections.

Contractor(s)

Qualifying Agent Name __________________________ (PRINT)

Signature of Qualifying Agent __________________________

License No: __________________________

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE Sworn to and subscribed before me this __________ Day of __________, 20__

By __________________________

{SEAL}

Personally known ________ or Produced Identification ________

Engineer or Architect

Name __________________________ (PRINT)

License No: __________________________

Address: __________________________

Phone No: __________________________

Email Address: __________________________

PROFESSIONAL SIGN AND SEAL

Date: __________________________
PROcedures for Building Code Inspections during COVID-19 Emergency Period

These are the procedures for Building Code inspections to be used during the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources' (RER) suspension of Building trades inspection services due to the COVID-19 Emergency Period (the “COVID-19 Emergency”). This suspension of inspection services is effective immediately and shall be in effect until further notice to be given upon expiration of the County Mayor's Emergency Order governing these services. This notice does not set forth procedures for Fire Code Inspections. RER shall issue a separate notice governing Building Code permitting procedures during the COVID-19 Emergency.

1. Inspections may be performed by a State of Florida licensed and registered architect or engineer who has no financial interest in the construction. Inspections by TAS301 accredited laboratories are also acceptable provided they are signed and sealed by the qualified independent professional. This procedure does not supersede or otherwise limit other inspection procedures currently allotted to threshold and special inspectors.

2. Under the authority of Executive Order Number 20-52 Emergency Management COVID-19, RER will allow certain inspections to be performed by State of Florida or Miami-Dade County licensed contractors certified under the category of work performed (see No. 5 below). The contractor cannot be the permit holder and or have any financial interest in the construction.

3. Final inspections must be performed by Miami-Dade County once inspection services resume. For projects that are pending only final inspections, RER will consider issuing a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO) on a case by case basis. All previous inspections must have been performed by the County and have only a final pending. The applicant must complete the TCO form and submit to RER-SPA@miamidade.gov for review. If approved, the TCO will be issued for a period of no more than 30 calendar days, unless otherwise extended by the Building Official.

4. Inspections must be reported on the RER Statement of Inspection Report COVID-19. A Report must be completed per permit. The individual providing the statement must perform and record all inspections for the permit number and provide the completed report to Miami-Dade County via the email addresses below for the respective trade supervisor or to the RER inspector at the next scheduled inspection.

a. Building and Roofing - Robert.Fatora@miamidade.gov, JeanSocate.Devilme@miamidade.gov, or Charles.Walton@miamidade.gov
b. Electrical - Amado.Diaz@miamidade.gov, or Wilfredo.Gonzalez@miamidade.gov
b. Mechanical – Gerald.Somerset@miamidade.gov, or Carlos.DeLaTorre2@miamidade.gov
d. Plumbing – Bernard.Chitolie@miamidade.gov, or David.Erickson@miamidade.gov
5. For residential properties (single family, duplex and townhouses), inspections for the following permit types and categories can be performed by State of Florida or Miami-Dade County licensed contractors certified under the category of work performed, so long as such contractors are not the permit holder or have any financial interest in the construction.

   a. Residential Building permit, (permit category 02) for alterations, repairs and additions under 1000 square feet, roofing, accessory structures such as pool, fence and sheds and other miscellaneous permits such as metal awnings, shutters.
   b. Mechanical work associated with master permit or any mechanical standalone permits for Air conditioning (03), Heating (10), Insulation (11), Air conditioning Duct Work (23) and Ventilation (41).
   c. Plumbing work associated with the master permit or any plumbing standalone permits under general plumbing (01), Lawn Sprinkler (03), Solar Water Heater (07), Pool Piping (10), Pool Maintenance (09), and Pool Service (12).
   d. Electrical Work associated with the master permit or electrical standalone permits under General Electric (01), Swimming Pools (23), change out of exact replacement of A/C (31) and Solar Photovoltaic (34).

6. Compliance with the provisions for inspections above shall be presumed to satisfy Florida Building Code requirements for the performance of building inspections.

7. RER encourages the use of photographs or other documentation that supports the inspection result and can be attached to the report.