

CITY OF COLUMBUS

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July 9, 2020

TO: CITIZENS OF COLUMBUS, MS

FR: ROBERT E. SMITH, SR., MAYOR

RE: WEARING OF MASKS IN BUSINESS LOCATIONS WHERE CUSTOMERS ARE SERVED

Yesterday, the City Council and I met and passed a Resolution related to COVID-19 protective measures. The intent of the Resolution was to require employees and customers to wear protective masks that cover the nose and mouth in all businesses where customers are served and to require employees and citizens to wear masks in public buildings in locations where employees and citizens interact with one another. The only exceptions were for customers when eating or drinking in a bar or restaurant or customers of fitness centers or gymnasiums when actually working out. As well, children under 6 are exempt from the requirement of wearing a mask.

It has been alleged that the resolution of July 8 required signage but did not actually require the wearing of masks. The intention of the regulation was to require, subject to a misdemeanor citation, the wearing of masks as set forth above.

Thus, to eliminate all doubt about this issue, pursuant to Section 4 of the Resolution adopted July 8, 2020, for the protection of life and liberty and to preserve the health, safety and general welfare of the City, I hereby Order that it shall mandatory that all employees and customers of businesses that serve customers as well as all employees and citizens working and visiting City government buildings in Columbus must wear masks, subject to the limited exceptions stated in the Resolution and that violation of this Order shall be a misdemeanor under the provisions of Chapter 1, Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbus - General Provisions, adopted by the Mayor and Council on or about March 21, 2020.

SO ORDERED, ON THIS the 9th day of July, 2020.



ROBERT E. SMITH, SR.,
MAYOR