WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020, Governor Beshear issued Executive Order 2020-215, declaring a State of Emergency throughout Kentucky pursuant to his power under the Kentucky Constitution and KRS Chapter 39A regarding the threats to public health presented by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Owensboro Mayor Thomas H. Watson and Judge/Executive Al Mattingly are authorized by KRS 39A.100 to exercise emergency power under state statute which is necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the citizens of Owensboro and Daviess County; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and proper to mandate certain health precautions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Kentucky Department of Public Health recommend the public practice of social distancing, which means to stay at home when possible and otherwise maintain at least six feet of distance from other individuals, to minimize the transmission of the coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, social distancing measures remain the primary and most effective steps to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Wearing a face cloth covering does NOT replace state-required social distancing measures, including maintaining at least 6 to 10 feet distance from other people. In settings where essential activities make social distancing more difficult to maintain (i.e. performing essential services or in stores), the CDC advises that wearing a cloth face mask may help reduce the spread of COVID-19; and
WHEREAS, locations where people congregate unnecessarily and fail to practice adequate social distancing are scenes of an emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, by the power vested under KRS Chapter 39A.100, as Mayor of the City of Owensboro, Kentucky and Judge/Executive of the County of Daviess, Kentucky, we do hereby order and direct as follows:

1) All businesses that remain open and were not closed by Governor Beshear’s Executive Order 2020-246 dated March 22, 2020, shall, to the fullest extent possible, practice social distancing and hygiene guidance from the CDC and Kentucky Department of Public Health, including: (a) ensuring physical separation of employees and customers by at least six (6) feet; (b) ensuring employees practice appropriate hygiene measures, including regular, thorough handwashing; (c) regularly cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces; (d) use of face cloth covering; and ordering sick individuals to leave the premises.

2) The maximum occupancy established by the City and County Fire Marshal, in their respective jurisdiction, at any life-sustaining retail business is hereby reduced to 25% of said figure. Access from all such structures shall be maintained in accordance with fire and life safety codes as enforced by the City and County Fire Marshal, in their respective jurisdiction. Physical barriers at entry and exit points shall not prevent occupants from exiting in case of an emergency.

3) The number of shoppers allowed to enter life-sustaining retail businesses that remain open shall be limited to one (1) adult member per household. Minors under eighteen (18) years of age shall only enter said businesses with the one (1) adult if necessary for the care and safety of the minor.

4) No one under eighteen (18) years of age shall be in public after 9:00 pm CDT nor before 6:00 am CDT any day of the week unless: a) accompanied by at least one parent or guardian; or b) is on the way to or from work or actively engaged in employment.
5) No persons shall congregate together in groups of ten (10) or more in any place open to the public. This shall not, however, prevent unassociated persons from being in a public place such as a grocery, subject to paragraphs 1) and 2) above.

6) This Order shall be enforced by the appropriate agency having jurisdiction in the City of Owensboro and the County of Daviess. Failure to comply with the terms of this Order could result in the closure of said business and/or forcible removal or arrest if all reasonable efforts for voluntary compliance have been exhausted.

7) This Order shall be effective immediately and remain in full force and effect for the duration of the State of Emergency referenced herein, or until rescinded by further order or operation of law.

This the 10th day of April, 2020.

/s/ Thomas H. Watson
Thomas H. Watson, Mayor
City of Owensboro

/s/ Al Mattingly
Al Mattingly, Daviess County Judge/Executive
Daviess County, Kentucky