

*Emergency Powers (Disasters) (COVID 19) (Curfew) Order***SAINT LUCIA**

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT, 2020, No. 43

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SAINT LUCIA

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT, 2020, No. 43

[24th March, 2020]

In exercise of the power conferred under section 3 of the Emergency Powers (Disasters) Act, Cap. 14.07, the Prime Minister makes this Order:

Citation

1. This Order may be cited as the Emergency Powers (Disasters) (COVID 19) (Curfew) Order, 2020.

Interpretation

2. In this Order, “curfew” means the time specified under section 3.

Curfew

3. A curfew is imposed each day from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Continuation of businesses and offices

4.—(1) All businesses and offices may continue business operations, except during the curfew, by allowing employees to work —

- (a) remotely from home utilizing virtual means; or
- (b) in accordance with the physical distancing protocols specified under section 7 within the time specified by the business or office.

(2) Where a business or office is unable to allow employees to work under subsection (1) shall suspend operations.

Continuation of the public service

5. All Ministries, Departments and Government offices may continue the business of the Government, except during the curfew, by allowing public servants or employees to work —

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- (a) remotely from home utilizing virtual means; or
- (b) in accordance with the physical distancing protocols under section 7 within the time specified by the Ministry, Department or Government office.

Essential services to operate during curfew

6.—(1) A service established, maintained or operated by the Government, or by a public or private enterprise, or otherwise, for —

- (a) the removal or handling of deceased persons or disposal of dead animals;
- (b) the provision of electricity;
- (c) the provision of telecommunications;
- (d) the transportation of a class of the public;
- (e) the provision of trucking services related to the movement and delivery of essential services and the food chain;
- (f) the provision of cleaning services;
- (g) the provision of fire, police, correctional services, private security services and services by the Castries City Police;
- (h) the operation of points of entry to allow only for cargo handling and departure of persons from Saint Lucia,

may continue to operate during the curfew.

(2) An essential service under subsection (1) shall comply with the physical distancing protocols specified under section 7.

Physical distancing protocols

7. A business, office, Ministry, Department, Government office and essential service shall —

- (a) ensure that all customers and staff maintain physical distancing of no less than six feet —
 - (i) in the business or office, or
 - (ii) outside the business or office, if required;

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- (b) determine the number of persons that may be permitted in the office at any one time by permitting one person for every thirty square feet of space.

Confinement to residence

8.—(1) In an effort to prevent the spread of Covid 19, a person other than a person under sections 4, 5 and 6 shall remain confined in their place of residence to avoid contact outside of their family, except —

- (a) for essential travel to the doctor, grocery store, bank, pharmacy or a refuelling station;
- (b) for outdoor exercise, whether alone or together with family members living under the same roof.

(2) A person under subsection (1)(a) and (b) shall comply with the physical distancing protocols under section 7(a).

Educational institutions

9.—(1) All educational institutions shall remain closed.

(2) Subsection (1) does not prohibit any activity that can be performed by electronic or virtual means.

(3) In subsection (2), “activity” includes teaching and learning.

Restriction on social activities

10. A person shall not host or attend —

- (a) a private party which includes any person from outside of the immediate household of the host;
- (b) a competitive sporting event;
- (c) a wedding which host ten or more persons other than the bride, bridegroom, official witnesses and the marriage officer;
- (d) a banquet, ball or reception;
- (e) a social event which host ten or more persons;
- (f) a funeral, except ten members of the immediate family and at least one officiant and essential mortuary staff; or

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- (g) a meeting of a fraternal society, private or social club or civic association or organization.

Restriction on international travel

11.—(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling and suppressing the spread of Covid 19, with immediate effect —

- (a) except with the prior written permission of the competent authority, all airports shall be closed to incoming international flights;
- (b) except with the prior written permission of the competent authority, all sea ports shall be closed to regional and international seafaring and private boating; and
- (c) a person shall not be permitted to enter and disembark for any reason, including transiting through Saint Lucia.

(2) The restriction under subsection (1) does not apply to —

- (a) outgoing flights or outgoing ships;
- (b) cargo flights or cargo ships;
- (c) commercial courier flights;
- (d) emergency medical flights;
- (e) emergency flights approved by the Civil Aviation Authority.

Restriction on road traffic

12.—(1) A person shall not drive a vehicle on any public or private road during the curfew except with the written permission of the Director of the National Emergency Management Organization.

(2) The Royal Saint Lucia Police Force shall have power to stop any vehicle and enquire as to the purpose for which that vehicle is being utilized.

(3) In this section, “vehicle” includes a motor vehicle or motorcycle.

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Restriction on visitation

13. Except with the permission of the Chief Medical Officer, a person shall not visit or be permitted to visit a person placed in isolation.

General penalty

14. A person who contravenes this Order commits an offence and is liable to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term not exceeding six months or a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or both and forfeiture of goods or money in respect of which the offence has been committed.

Expiry

15. This Order ceases to have effect when the declaration of state of emergency pursuant to which this Order has been made ceases to have effect.

Made this 24th day of March, 2020.

ALLEN M. CHASTANET,
Prime Minister.