

EXECUTIVE ORDER 16

Economic Rescue Team

WHEREAS, pursuant to Missouri law and St. Louis County's Charter and ordinances, in an emergency, the County Executive is responsible for the performance of emergency management functions, and may, as a part of carrying out that responsibility, appropriate and expend funds; make contracts; obtain and distribute equipment, materials, and supplies for emergency management purposes; provide for the health and safety of persons; appoint, provide, or remove rescue teams; protect the safety of property; and direct and coordinate the development of disaster plans and programs;

WHEREAS, the County Executive may exercise all emergency powers and authorities given to him under federal, state, or county laws and has the authority to execute all ordinances, laws, rules, and regulations;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, a state of emergency was declared relating to the immediate and significant risk that COVID-19 posed to the health, safety, and wellbeing of the people of St. Louis County;

WHEREAS, in a short period of time, COVID-19 has rapidly spread, causing sickness, and even death, of St. Louis County residents, thereby necessitating more significant actions;

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Director of the Department of Public Health and other public health experts recommended that limiting the spread of COVID-19 required imposing restrictions to prevent on-premises consumption of food and beverages at restaurants, bars, and other food establishments, and Executive Order 13 was signed to implement those recommendations;

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2020, the Director of the Department of Public Health and other public health experts recommended that additional measures be taken to protect the public health, including requiring people to stay at home other than engaging in essential activities and requiring non-essential businesses and social service organizations to cease non-essential activities, and both Executive Order 15 and the Stay at Home Order were signed to implement those recommendations;

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19, together with the public health measures taken to limit its spread, have already imposed and will continue to impose significant costs, financial and otherwise, on St. Louis County's workers and businesses;

WHEREAS, the costs, financial and otherwise, that COVID-19 has imposed and will continue to impose on St. Louis County's workers and businesses are an immediate and significant threat to the health, safety, and wellbeing of the people of St. Louis County; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sam Page, County Executive, St. Louis County, Missouri, do hereby **ORDER** and **DECLARE** the following:

1. The St. Louis County Economic Rescue Team shall be created to address economic issues that are specific to workers and businesses in St. Louis County impacted by COVID-19, including identifying strategies to stabilize the St. Louis County economy, to help the economy recover, to help ensure the continued livelihood of workers, to protect the investments of business owners and entrepreneurs, to reduce unnecessary laws and regulations that might be a barrier to the rapid recovery of the local economy, to analyze potential policies concerning coordination of state and federal stimulus and other relief, to recommend other actions or policies that could improve and strengthen St. Louis County's economy, and to perform other duties assigned by the County Executive.

2. The Economic Rescue Team shall collaborate with St. Louis County's economic development agencies and political subdivisions, including the Economic Development Partnership, Certified Development Company, Economic Development Collaborative, Industrial Development Authority, Lambert Joint Development Commission, Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority, Port Authority, STL Venture Works, Wellston Redevelopment Corporation, World Trade Center St. Louis, municipalities, fire districts and other political subdivisions.

3. The Economic Rescue Team shall further collaborate with similar organizations in other regional jurisdictions, economic development agencies in the St. Louis region, chambers of commerce, labor unions, workforce development organizations, business associations, and other interested parties.

4. This order shall be effective immediately upon my execution hereof.

SO ORDERED this twenty-third day of March, 2020.

ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sam Page". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Sam Page
County Executive