



Office of the Mayor
City of Columbus
Ohio

EXECUTIVE ORDER

2020-04

By: **ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR**

State of Emergency: Order Declaring a Curfew in the City of Columbus, Ohio

WHEREAS, on May 25, 2020, in Minneapolis, MN, the death of an African-American man by the name of George Floyd at the hands of a Derek Chauvin, a Caucasian law enforcement officer, resulted in large-scale protests throughout the Minneapolis/St. Paul area; and

WHEREAS, over the course of the next few days, peaceful protests and demonstrations in Minneapolis evolved and erupted in violence, resulting in wide-scale vandalism, arson, and rioting throughout the metropolitan area of Minneapolis/St. Paul; and

WHEREAS, these protests led to nationwide protests and demonstrations against the deaths of numerous unarmed persons of color occasioned by encounters with law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, on May 28, 2020, protestors gathered at the Ohio Statehouse in the City of Columbus to engage in a peaceful demonstration in memory of George Floyd and against the use of excessive force by law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, in the late hours of May 28, 2020, and into the early morning hours of May 29, 2020, the previously peaceful demonstration in the City erupted into acts of violence and vandalism and confrontation with law enforcement officers, resulting in tens of thousands of dollars of damage to property including the Statehouse, the Ohio Theater, and innumerable businesses in the Downtown corridor; and

WHEREAS, on May 29, 2020, protestors once again gathered in the Downtown area of the City in memory of George Floyd, and against acts of excessive force by law enforcement, and once again, what began as a peaceful protest evolved into acts of violence and vandalism in the nighttime hours, spreading this time from beyond the Statehouse square area and into further areas of the City causing additional property damage and endangering citizens; and

WHEREAS, on May 30, 2020, protests and demonstrations once again occurred and there is credible cause to believe, based upon statements being made on social media platforms, that further protests and demonstrations are being planned for this weekend in the City of Columbus as such events continue across the country; and

WHEREAS, the threat of violence and property damage, occasioned by the propensity of otherwise peaceful demonstrations to evolve into riots during the later hours of the evening, and the credible evidence that a body of people has gathered once again, and that some of their number have gathered with the intent to do violence to persons or property, has substantially impaired the functioning of government and its ability to protect the lives and property of the people, and their right to peacefully protest; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andrew Ginther, Mayor of the City of Columbus, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Ohio Constitution, the Charter of the City of Columbus, and Sections 123.01 and 123.02 of the Columbus City Code, do hereby declare that a State of Emergency exists in the City of Columbus and order and direct:

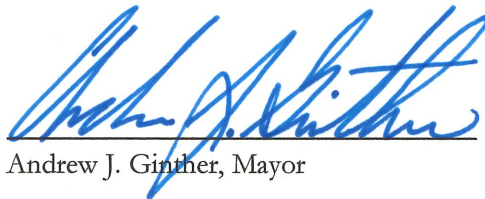
1. A curfew shall be imposed in all public places within the City of Columbus, including streets and sidewalks, from 10:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. the following morning beginning Saturday, May 30, 2020 until the Mayor declares the emergency to be over and/or this order is otherwise rescinded.
2. During the hours of curfew, persons must not travel upon any public street, sidewalk, or public place.

3. All law enforcement, fire, and medical personnel and members of the news media, as well as other personnel authorized by the City of Columbus and State of Ohio, are exempt.
4. Individuals traveling directly between their place of work and their residence, seeking medical care, fleeing dangerous circumstances, or experiencing homelessness are also exempt.
5. For the purposes of this emergency declaration, "travel" includes, without limitation, travel on foot, bicycle, skateboard, scooter, motorcycle, automobile, or public transit, or any other mode of transporting a person from one location to another.
6. For purposes of this emergency regulation, "public place" means any place, whether on privately or publicly owned property, that is open and accessible to the general public, including but not limited to; public streets, roads, alleys, highways, driveways, sidewalks, parks, vacant lots and unsupervised property.
7. A person in violation of this emergency regulation shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and/or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.

This order shall be in full force and effect after my signature is affixed to this document.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the Mayor of the City of Columbus, Ohio, to be hereto affixed this 30th day of May, 2020.


Andrew J. Ginther, Mayor