

TOWN OF WAKEFIELD MASSACHUSETTS, BOARD OF HEALTH
DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, a sudden, generally unexpected occurrence of circumstances demanding public action has arisen within the world, country, state and the Town of Wakefield due to the coronavirus pandemic and other illnesses; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has declared a national emergency due to this situation and has directed the agencies of the national government to take appropriate actions; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has declared a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and declared and has directed the agencies of the state government to take appropriate actions; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Health, upon advice from advisors or their designees, has determined that the situation poses a present, reasonable and imminent danger to public health, safety, or general welfare of the people of Wakefield or their property so that it has become necessary for the Town government to utilize and coordinate the services, equipment, supplies, and facilities of existing departments, offices, and agencies or the community, both locally, regionally, statewide and nationally, if necessary, including the taking of ordinary and extraordinary actions for the purposes of emergency management and emergency functions to protect the public; and

WHEREAS, a Declaration of Emergency and immediate action is needed to prevent, minimize, or mitigate damage to public health, safety, or general welfare of the people of Wakefield and/or property which may otherwise result from the above described situation;

NOW THEREFORE, the Town of Wakefield Board of Health, hereby declares that as of March 18, 2020 a Public Health Emergency is declared to exist by the Board of Health and authorizes and directs, under the direction of the Town Administrator, all Town personnel and agents to take action appropriate to respond to this situation and ratifies, confirms and adopts any related action taken prior to the formal adoption of this Declaration by its Public Health Director and her staff. It is hereby further ordered that Ruth Clay as Public Health Director shall serve as the agent of the Board of Health to effectuate the intent of this Order. This Declaration of a Public Health Emergency shall remain in effect until notice is given, pursuant to the Board of Health's judgment, that the Public Health Emergency no longer exists.



Laurel Gourville, Chair

March 18, 2020

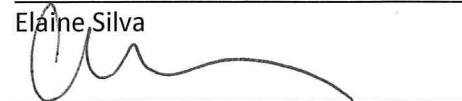
date



Elaine Silva

March 18, 2020

date



Candace Linehan

March 18, 2020

date