

# EMERGENCY POWERS (COVID 19 PANDEMIC) (LOCKDOWN) ORDER, 2020

## Arrangement of Order

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### Order

1.	Citation and duration.....	2
2.	Application.....	2
3.	Curfew.....	2
4.	Work remotely from home.....	5
5.	Public Service.....	5
6.	Opening of grocery stores, pharmacies, etc.....	5
7.	Legal services.....	7
8.	Restocking of goods.....	7
9.	Designation of shopper.....	8
10.	Subsistence fishing. ....	8
11.	Undertakings and activities in Abaco and its Cays.....	8
12.	Religious administration and services.....	8
13.	Exercise.....	9
14.	Construction.....	9
15.	Funerals.....	9
16.	Weddings.....	9
17.	Restriction on travel.....	9
18.	Exemptions.....	9
19.	Event of necessity or emergency.....	9
20.	Emergency Powers (Covid 19 Pandemic)(No. 3) Order, 2020.....	9
21.	Revocation of S.I. No. 113 of 2020.....	10

**EMERGENCY POWERS (COVID 19 PANDEMIC)  
REGULATIONS, 2020  
(CHAPTER 34)**

**EMERGENCY POWERS (COVID 19 PANDEMIC)  
(LOCKDOWN) ORDER, 2020**

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by the Emergency Powers (Covid 19 Pandemic) Regulations, 2020, I HEREBY make the following Order —

**1. Citation and duration.**

- (1) This Order may be cited as the Emergency Powers (Covid 19 Pandemic) (Lockdown) Order, 2020.
- (2) This Order shall expire at 5:00 am on Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

**2. Application.**

- (1) Subject to paragraph (2), this Order shall apply to all Islands of The Bahamas.
- (2) This Order shall cease to apply to Grand Bahama at 5:00 am on Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

**3. Curfew.**

- (1) There is hereby imposed a twenty-four curfew effective 10:00 pm Tuesday, the 4<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020 until 5:00 am Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.
- (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), every agency, business, establishment or undertaking shall remain closed except —
  - (a) The Princess Margaret Hospital and other public health medical facilities;
  - (b) Doctors Hospital (Shirley Street and Blake Road);
  - (c) the Rand Memorial Hospital;
  - (d) a quarantine centre or facility;
  - (e) the National Food Distribution Task Force;
  - (f) Grand Bahama food distribution centres;
  - (g) Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre;
  - (h) the National Emergency Management Agency;

- (i) the Disaster Reconstruction Authority;
- (j) a hotel with guests subject to paragraph (3);
- (k) The Royal Bahamas Police Force;
- (l) The Royal Bahamas Defence Force;
- (m) Fire Services;
- (n) Operation Bahamas Turks and Caicos (OPBAT);
- (o) the Department of Correctional Services;
- (p) the Department of Immigration;
- (q) the Customs Department;
- (r) the Judiciary (essential workers only);
- (s) the Bahamas Civil Aviation Authority (air traffic controllers);
- (t) the Ministry of the Environment and Housing;
- (u) the Ministry of Social Services;
- (v) the National Insurance Board, generally, for non-client facing services only;
- (w) the Bahamas Humane Society and the Grand Bahama Humane Society;
- (x) the Bahamas National Trust;
- (y) waste disposal and sanitation services;
- (z) governmental, non-governmental and religious organisations operating for the distribution of food supplies;
- (aa) a business licensed to provide security guard services;
- (ab) a business that provides veterinarian emergency services;
- (ac) essential workers, including contractors or subcontractors, in any public or privately owned utility provider of water, electricity or electronic communications, including the print and electronic news media;
- (ad) subject to paragraph (4), ports of entry, container ports, freight forwarders and private terminals for the conduct, where applicable, of basic port maintenance services (inclusive of garbage removal), domestic trade, imports and exports of containerised freight, and the import, treatment, bunkering and export of oil products;
- (ae) any public or privately owned terminal and ancillary or support services for the receipt of imported wholesale petroleum products for domestic consumption, for the purpose of the storage and onward delivery of the same to any public or private entity for utility or retail distribution throughout The Bahamas over land or by barges;

- (af) a business engaged in inter-island transportation of freight; and
- (ag) the following businesses and its essential employees —
  - (i) Polymers International Ltd;
  - (ii) Grand Bahama Power Company;
  - (iii) Grand Bahama Utility Company;
  - (iv) Bradford Grand Bahama Limited;
  - (v) PharmaChem Technologies G.B. Ltd. and subcontractors;
  - (vi) Freeport Container Port Ltd;
  - (vii) Bahama Rock - Martin Marietta;
  - (viii) Buckeye Bahamas Hub Ltd and subcontractors;
  - (ix) Grand Bahama Shipyard Ltd.;
  - (x) Bahamas Industrial Technologies Ltd.;
  - (xi) Bahamian Brewery;
  - (xii) Tropical Shipping;
  - (xiii) MSC Bahamas;
  - (xiv) Freeport Aggregates Limited;
  - (xv) Quality Services Limited;
  - (xvi) Grand Bahama Airport Company; and
  - (xvii) Equinor South Riding Point LLC.
- (3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) —
  - (a) a healthcare worker may conduct home visits to members of the general public for the purpose of providing medical or therapeutic care;
  - (b) a farmer or caretaker shall be permitted to maintain crops and animals;
  - (c) an Administrator, for the purposes of distributing food and water on behalf of the Government and the National Food Distribution Task Force;
  - (d) fishing for crawfish, lobster season preparation, and harvesting of crabs shall be permitted;
  - (e) the servicing and replenishing of automatic banking machines shall be permitted; and
  - (f) night deposits shall be permitted.
- (3) A hotel permitted to open under paragraph (1), subject to the following conditions —
  - (a) guests shall not be permitted to leave the premises except as permitted by this Order;

- (b) indoor dining, casinos, discos, gyms, spas, salon services are prohibited.
- (4) A freight forwarder permitted to operate under paragraph (1) shall only provide services to the general public utilizing curbside pickup or delivery.
- (5) No person, except an essential worker for a business or establishment specified in paragraph (2), shall leave his place of residence for any purpose whatsoever, other than for —
  - (a) the purpose of seeking urgent medical care at a hospital specified in paragraph (2); or
  - (b) travel to secure groceries, gas, pharmaceuticals, water or to any business or undertakings permitted to open in order 5; or
  - (c) any activity permitted by this Order.
- (6) Any person who contravenes this Order commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars or to a term of imprisonment for a term not exceeding eighteen months or to both in accordance with regulation 30 of the Emergency Powers (Covid 19 Pandemic) Regulations, 2020<sup>1</sup>.

**4. Work remotely from home.**

- (1) All businesses and offices may continue their business operations by allowing their employees to work remotely from home utilizing virtual means, unless those employees are permitted to work under orders 3 or 6 or are designated as being essential workers under order 5.
- (2) Where a business is unable to have employees work remotely from home, that business shall cease its operations.

**5. Public Service.**

- (1) All persons employed within the public service, unless specifically designated as essential workers in order 3 or designated by the permanent secretary of any Ministry as essential workers, shall work remotely from home.
- (2) All persons employed within the public service who are so designated as essential workers by the permanent secretary of the respective Ministry shall report to their place of work.

**6. Opening of grocery stores, pharmacies, etc.**

- (1) Notwithstanding order 3 —

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<sup>1</sup>S.I. No. 101 of 2020.

- (a) the following businesses may operate and open to the general public on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between the hours of 7:00 am and 5:00 pm —
  - (i) a grocery store, whether wholesale or retail;
  - (ii) a water depot;
  - (iii) a pharmacy offering curbside service only;
  - (iv) a gas station offering external service only;
  - (v) a hardware store offering curbside and delivery service only;
  - (vi) a private medical facility, for the purpose of providing the following types of care —
    - (aa) emergency medical care;
    - (bb) immunisation;
    - (cc) neonatal and prenatal care;
    - (dd) dialysis;
    - (ee) chemotherapy and other cancer treatments;
    - (ff) tele-medicine; and
  - (vii) a dental practice for the purpose of providing emergency care;
- (b) the National Insurance Board shall be permitted to open to the general public on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm from the National Stadium for the distribution of cheques;
- (c) a utility service provider shall be permitted to open to the general public on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays;
- (d) a commercial bank may open —
  - (i) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between the hours of 9:00 am and 1:00 pm to the general public; and
  - (ii) Mondays to Fridays, between the hours of 8:00 am to 3:00 pm for operation services, excluding any client facing services;
- (e) an international bank, trust company or financial institutions may operate Mondays to Fridays for operation services, excluding any client-facing services, between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm with ten essential staff members or more as may be approved in writing by the Competent Authority;
- (f) the following businesses may open only to essential workers on Saturdays between the hours of 7:00 am and 1:00 pm —
  - (i) a grocery store;

- (ii) a water depot;
  - (iii) a pharmacy offering curbside service only;
  - (iv) a gas station offering external service only;
  - (g) the essential workers of a pool maintenance or landscape service provider may operate on Tuesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 7:00 am and 5:00 pm;
  - (h) a bakery, water and ice production company shall be permitted to operate utilizing curbside pickup and delivery on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays between the hours of 7:00 am and 5:00 pm; and
  - (i) a news vendor shall be permitted to operate on Mondays to Fridays between the hours of 7:00 am and 1:00 pm provided that the vendor remains stationary.
- (2) For the purposes of this order, “essential worker” includes employees of an agency, business or establishment specified in order 3.

**7. Legal services.**

- (1) Notwithstanding order 3, a counsel and attorney shall be permitted to operate when —
- (a) discharging instructions in existing criminal or urgent civil matters or taking instructions in new criminal or urgent civil matters where this cannot be done by audio-visual means;
  - (b) acting in connection with the execution of wills subject in all cases to producing identification if requested to do so.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, no counsel and attorney shall be permitted to attend his offices and shall work remotely from home in accordance with order 5.

**8. Restocking of goods.**

- (1) A —
- (a) grocery store, whether wholesale or retail;
  - (b) wholesale bakery;
  - (c) water depot;
  - (d) hardware store,
- shall be permitted to open for the restocking of goods only on Tuesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 7:00 am and 5:00 pm.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, the businesses specified in paragraph (1) shall not be permitted to serve the general public on the days specified in paragraph (1).

**9. Designation of shopper.**

Each household shall designate one person to carry out shopping for essential item or seeking essential services as specified in order 6.

**10. Subsistence fishing.**

Subsistence fishing shall be permitted on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during the daytime.

**11. Undertakings and activities in Abaco and its Cays.**

- (1) Notwithstanding order 3, the following businesses, undertakings and activities in Abaco are permitted to continue in operation —
  - (a) gas stations, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., for the purpose of refuelling generators;
  - (b) non-governmental organisations for the production and provision of water and food distribution; and
  - (c) for reconstruction generally.
- (2) Notwithstanding order 5, a hardware store or pharmacy currently operating from the premises of a grocery store may continue to operate from within the grocery store and is not restricted to operating utilizing curbside pickup and delivery.

**12. Religious administration and services.**

Notwithstanding order 3 —

- (a) a place of religious instruction that conducts services on —
  - (i) Saturdays, shall be permitted to operate on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020 and Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020;
  - (ii) Sundays, shall be permitted to operate Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020 and Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020,  
via live stream between the hours of of 7:00 a.m. and 1:00 pm. from their place of instruction, provided that not more than ten persons shall be permitted to participate in such service;
- (b) a person shall be permitted to attend a place religious instruction individually for private prayer; and
- (c) the administrative offices of a place of religious instruction shall be permitted to operate Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00 am and 1:00 pm with a maximum of five persons in attendance.



**13. Exercise.**

Notwithstanding order 3, a person is permitted to exercise —

- (a) in his immediate neighbourhood between the hours of 6:00 am and 9:00 am; and
- (b) in his yard.

**14. Construction.**

Notwithstanding order 3, construction shall be permitted on —

- (a) Monday to Friday between the hours of 7:00 am and 5:00 pm; and
- (b) Saturdays between the hours of 7:00 am and 1:00 pm.

**15. Funerals.**

Notwithstanding order 3, funerals may be held provided that the funeral service is conducted at the graveside and is limited to five persons exclusive the officiant and mortuary workers.

**16. Weddings.**

Notwithstanding order 3, weddings may be held provided that attendees are limited to five persons exclusive of the officiant.

**17. Restriction on travel.**

Orders 21, 21A, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28 of the Emergency Powers (Covid 19 Pandemic) (No. 3) Order, 2020 shall continue apply provided that diplomatic personnel shall not be required to submit to mandatory monitoring.

**18. Exemptions.**

The Competent Authority, may by letter, in exceptional circumstances and in consultation with public health professionals, exempt a business or class of business from any restriction imposed by this Order.

**19. Event of necessity or emergency.**

In the event of a necessity or emergency, a person shall seek the permission of the Commissioner of Police to leave his place of residence by calling 311 or the nearest police station.

**20. Emergency Powers (Covid 19 Pandemic)(No. 3) Order, 2020.**

For the avoidance of doubt —

- (a) this Order shall apply to every establishment or business permitted to operate pursuant to order 5 of the Emergency Powers (Covid 19 Pandemic)(No. 3) Order, 2020;
- (b) the Emergency Powers (Covid 19 Pandemic)(No. 3) Order, 2020 as amended from time to time, shall continue to have effect subject to this Order and shall continue in force at the expiration of this Order; and
- (c) orders 3, 4, 5, and 6 of the Emergency Powers (Covid 19 Pandemic) (No. 3) Order, 2020, shall apply for the duration of this Order.

**21. Revocation of S.I. No. 113 of 2020.**

The Emergency Powers (Covid 19 Pandemic) (Grand Bahama) (Lockdown) Order, 2020 is hereby revoked.

Made this *4<sup>th</sup>* day of *August*, 2020



**PRIME MINISTER**