



PRESS RELEASE

DECEMBER 23, 2020

FROM SUMNER COUNTY MAYOR, ANTHONY HOLT

On December 22, 2020, Governor Lee signed Executive Order No. 73, extending provisions of previously issued Executive Orders, by extending the term of the Order until 11:59 p.m., Central Standard Time, on February 27, 2021.

Sumner County is still experiencing a substantial increase in the number of active COVID-19 cases. After continued discussions with local hospital administrators, health professionals, and our local Health Department, I have decided that it is in the best interest for the safety of our citizens to extend the Executive Order to wear face coverings in public places in Sumner County.

While the vaccine is beginning to make its way into our community, this virus is still here and continues to pose a risk to everyone, especially during flu season. It is important that we continue to take steps to slow the spread of the virus in order to prevent continued detrimental effects on our everyday lives. Businesses need to remain fully operational, citizens need to be able to continue to perform their daily activities, schools need to remain open, and our hospitals need to have adequate capacity to treat those that are in need of care. This can be accomplished by following social distancing guidelines, washing our hands frequently, wearing face coverings when not able to practice safe social distancing, and staying home when sick. My purpose is to take action now to protect the health and well-being of our citizens and to preserve our economy.

This Executive Order will be effective and enforceable as of 11:59 p.m., Central Standard Time, on December 29, 2020, and shall remain in effect until 11:59 p.m., Central Standard Time, on February 27, 2021, unless sooner cancelled or unless extended pursuant to subsequent authorization by the Governor. For more information on Governor Lee's executive Orders and statewide COVID-19 numbers, visit <https://covid19.tn.gov/>.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Thank you for keeping your family and our community safe.

God Bless.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anthony Holt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

## SUMNER COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDER

### DIRECTING THE WEARING OF FACE MASKS IN PUBLIC PLACES

**Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order No. 73, which extends the expiration date of previously issued Executive Orders (Nos. 36, 38, and 54,), I, Anthony Holt, Sumner County Mayor, do hereby issue the following directive related to the wearing of face masks in public places:**

**Except for the exclusions set forth below, all Sumner County Residents and Visitors, when in public places shall be required to wear masks to help prevent the spread of the COVID 19 in accordance with CDC guidance.**

Persons, including employees or customers of businesses, are required to wear face coverings or other similar coverings in public settings where being in close proximity to others is anticipated, and particularly where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain at all times.

Students in middle and high school and all staff are to wear face coverings while at school facilities, except under circumstances described in exemptions listed below. Elementary students are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings while at school.

All law enforcement shall use reasonable care to address willful failure to follow this order. In the event of such failure, civil fines or other necessary action shall be available to law enforcement to enforce this mandate. (Per TCA 58-2-120)

Such face coverings can be created from household items or made at home from common materials at low cost. Face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.

Face coverings do not have to be worn:

1. Within one's residence or automobile, unless transporting others for hire;
2. By a child twelve (12) years of age or younger; except for middle and high school students while in public school buildings and their facilities where masks are required.
3. By someone who has trouble breathing due to an underlying health condition or another bona fide medical or health-related reason for not wearing a face covering;
4. By someone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance;
5. While eating or drinking;
6. While outdoors, unless the person cannot substantially maintain appropriate social distancing from others outside of the person's household;
7. While working under conditions where appropriate social distancing from others outside of the person's household is substantially maintained;
8. In situations in which wearing a face covering poses a safety or security risk;

9. While in a house of worship unless required by that house of worship, but wearing a face covering in such locations is strongly encouraged; or
10. While in a voting site for the purpose of voting or administering an election, but wearing a face covering in such locations is strongly encouraged.

This Executive Order will be effective and enforceable as of 11:59 p.m., Central Standard Time, on December 29, 2020 and shall remain in effect until 11:59 p.m., Central Standard Time, on February 27, 2021.

Signed,



Anthony Holt, Sumner County Mayor

Dated this 23rd day of December, 2020.