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CLERK

2020 MAR 23 PM 6:02

Executive Order
Office of the Mayor
City of Atlanta

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 2020-18
BY THE MAYOR**

CALLING ON THE ATLANTA HOUSING AUTHORITY, ATLANTA BELTLINE INC., FULTON COUNTY/CITY OF ATLANTA LAND BANK AUTHORITY, INVEST ATLANTA, PARTNERS FOR HOME, AND THE CITY OF ATLANTA’S DEPARTMENT OF GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO INSTITUTE A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON RESIDENTIAL EVICTIONS AND FILINGS FOR A PERIOD OF SIXTY (60) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ORDER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, like much of the world the United States, the State of Georgia, and the City of Atlanta are currently responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus named “SARS-CoV-2” and the disease it causes named “coronavirus disease 2019” (abbreviated “COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the President of the United States announced a national emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which included two emergency declarations: one under the National Emergencies Act and one under the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020 Governor Brian Kemp signed a public health state of emergency to address the COVID-19 pandemic through assisting health and emergency management officials across Georgia by deploying all available resources for the mitigation and treatment of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, on March 15, I declared there to be an emergency in existence within the City of Atlanta pursuant to Section 2-181(a) of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control (“CDC”) has issued guidance on the emerging and rapidly evolving situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, including how to protect oneself from this illness; and

WHEREAS, social distancing is recommended by the CDC to prevent the continued spreading of this illness in the community; and

WHEREAS, as on March 16, 2020, the CDC advised that during the next fifteen (15) days, all events in the United States of ten (10) or more people should be cancelled or held virtually; and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2020 twenty-four (24) infectious disease clinicians in Georgia signed onto an opinion that it is in their belief that there is little time to “flatten the curve” of the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, these clinicians advised that at least one model suggests that “the point of no return” for Georgia is estimated to begin on March 24, 2020 and that after that date, every day of delay before restrictive measures, such as those put in place by California, New York, and Illinois, are taken will lead to an earlier and higher peak of infected Georgians that will completely overwhelm our hospital systems; and

WHEREAS, affected by the COVID-19 pandemic do not have access to paid time off from their employers, or are contract workers who only get paid when they work and cannot work remotely; and

WHEREAS, even a few lost days of wages due to the effects of COVID-19 could mean not being able to buy food, pay rent, or pay utilities; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of Atlantans spend more than one-third of their income on rent and are housing cost-burdened; and

WHEREAS, the ability of residents to remain in their homes contributes directly to the community’s efforts to prevent the further exposure and spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, government entities around the world are implementing eviction prevention measures to increase housing stability for residents being financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Housing Authority, Atlanta Beltline Inc., Fulton County/City of Atlanta Land Bank Authority, Invest Atlanta, Partners for Home, and the City of Atlanta’s Department of Grants and Community Development are quasi-governmental entities, to which the Mayor has appointment authority, and which provide subsidies for the development and provision of housing opportunities; and

WHEREAS, it is my desire to reduce the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on tenants who lease residential properties from these quasi-governmental entities by calling for these entities to institute a temporary moratorium on residential evictions and filings for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-182 of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances, I may issue an executive order which applies to events of short duration and which expires at the next meeting of the Atlanta City Council subsequent thereof unless ratified by a majority vote of the members present and voting; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS, AS MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, HEREBY AUTHORIZE, ORDER AND DIRECT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: As of the date of the execution of this order, that the Atlanta Housing Authority, Atlanta Beltline Inc., Fulton County/City of Atlanta Land Bank Authority, Invest Atlanta, Partners for Home, and the City of Atlanta's Department of Grants and Community Development are called upon to institute a temporary moratorium on residential evictions and filings in sponsored and funded housing units and housing developments for a period of sixty (60) days from the date of this order.

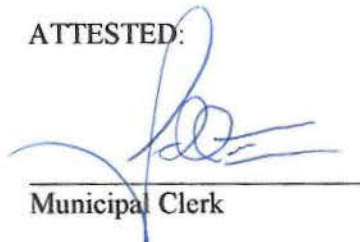
SECTION 2: The entities subject to this order are instructed not to permit the issuance notices of termination or initiate evictions for non-payment of rent, and not to permit the imposition of late fees or other charges due to late or non-payment of rent during the term of this order.

This 23rd day of March, 2020.




Keisha Lance Bottoms, Mayor

ATTESTED:



Municipal Clerk
Foris Webb, III
Municipal Clerk