

**City of Baton Rouge-Parish of East Baton Rouge**  
**Office of the Mayor President**  
**Executive Order No. 2020-03-06**  
**March 30, 2020**

**Executive Order regarding COVID-19 Public Health Emergency**  
**Local License Revocation for Past Due Taxes**

**WHEREAS,** on March 11, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards issued a proclamation, pursuant to La. R.S. 29:760, declaring a public health emergency regarding COVID-19;

**WHEREAS,** the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") is responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel (new) coronavirus that was first detected in China and which has now been detected in many other countries, including in the United States. The virus has been named "SARS-CoV-2" and the disease it causes has been named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated "COVID-19");

**WHEREAS,** on January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern" (PHEIC). On January 31, 2020, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency (PHE) for the United States to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to COVID-19;

**WHEREAS,** on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization designated the COVID-19 outbreak as a worldwide pandemic;

**WHEREAS,** the City of Baton Rouge-Parish of East Baton Rouge has reason to believe that COVID-19 may be spread amongst the population by various means of exposure, therefore posing a high probability of widespread exposure and a significant risk of substantial future harm to a large number of citizens;

**WHEREAS,** on March 13, 2020, the Mayor-President issued a local declaration of disaster;

**WHEREAS,** on March 16, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation Number JBE 2020-30 which ceased the operation of and/or greatly reduced the hours of operation of some businesses within the Parish of East Baton Rouge;

**WHEREAS,** an executive order regarding the assistance to local businesses during this public health emergency is necessary; and,

**WHEREAS,** City-Parish Departments need to thoroughly prepare for any eventuality and deploy resources to assist local residents, if necessary;

**NOW THEREFORE, I, SHARON WESTON BROOME, Mayor-President, City of Baton Rouge, Parish of East Baton Rouge, do hereby order and direct as follows:**

Under the authority granted by La. R.S. 29:727, I do hereby suspend City Parish Ordinance 9:1014.1 Section 1 for the remainder of the year 2020, thus allowing Class A license holders located in East Baton Rouge Parish to be exempt from license forfeiture for unpaid local taxes, fees, penalties, and interest. This executive Order does not suspend the provisions of La. R.S. 26 71, et seq., thereby requiring all Class A license holders to be in compliance with payment of local taxes, fees, penalties and interest in order to be issued a clearance letter for a license to operate in the year 2021.

  
SHARON WESTON BROOME