



## DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY Elizabeth City, North Carolina

Pursuant to the authority granted to North Carolina counties under the North Carolina Emergency Management Act (Article 1 of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes), the following findings and proclamation is hereby made:

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor is authorized and empowered under N.C.G.S. 166A-19.22 to issue a public proclamation declaring to all citizens of Elizabeth City the existence of a State of Emergency. I exercise the authority given to me to preserve the public safety and hereby render all required and available assistance vital to the safety, security, well-being, and health of the citizens of Elizabeth City.

**WHEREAS**, on Monday- April 26, 2021 City officials will file a formal request with the Pasquotank County Sheriff's office under N.C.G.S. Sect. 132-1.4A seeking the public release of the officer-worn body camera footage from the incident resulting in the death of Mr. Andrew Brown, Jr. on Wednesday April 21, 2021. It is also our understanding that numerous news media outlets have taken steps to secure a court order directing the Sheriff's office to release those tapes. It seems likely that the video and audio footage will be released in the very near future. In order to ensure the safety of our citizens and their property, City officials realize there may potentially be a period of civil unrest within the City following the public release of that footage. In order to absolutely ensure that the City has all State and/or Federal resources necessary to protect our citizens during any such period of civil unrest, we deem it necessary to declare a State of Emergency within the City of Elizabeth City, North Carolina beginning on Monday April 26, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. and continuing until deemed no longer necessary to protect our citizens from any such threat to their safety.

**WHEREAS**, our citizens have the right to peacefully assemble and protest and the City of Elizabeth City is committed to protecting those rights; and

**WHEREAS**, our citizens and businesses must be protected from violence and damage;

**NOW THEREFORE, I, Mayor Bettie J. Parker**, Mayor of the City of Elizabeth City, North Carolina do hereby proclaim a "STATE OF EMERGENCY" in Elizabeth City, North Carolina. I direct all departments and agencies of Elizabeth City to take whatever steps necessary to protect life and property, public infrastructure, and provide such emergency assistance deemed necessary to preserve public safety.

In accordance with this proclamation:

1. A State of Emergency is hereby declared with the City of Elizabeth City, North Carolina. The Emergency Operations Plan adopted by the City of Elizabeth City and all applicable mutual aid compacts and agreements are to be placed in full force and effect and shall remain in effect until this Emergency Declaration is rescinded.


2. I hereby order all City of Elizabeth City law enforcement officers, Emergency Services personnel, Emergency Management, and other application City of Elizabeth City employees subject to our control to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of this Declaration, all applicable local ordinances, state and federal laws, and the City of Elizabeth City Emergency Operations Plan.

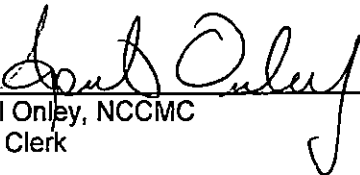
3. I hereby order this declaration: (a) to be distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) to be filed with Clerk to the City of Elizabeth City Council; and (c) to be distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

4. This declaration shall take effect on April 26, 2021, at 8:00 a.m., and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded.

5. A curfew for the City of Elizabeth City has been put in place effective April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Children, youth and adults must be off the streets between the hours of 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. The only exceptions to this curfew are for traveling to and from employment or emergency. Visits to stores, gas stations, and other non-emergency travel are expected to be conducted during non-curfew hours. This curfew will be in effect until further notice.

PROCLAIMED this the 26<sup>th</sup> of April, 2021

  
Bettie J. Parker  
Mayor

  
April Onley, NCCMC  
City Clerk

