

**SEWARD COUNTY EMERGENCY HEALTH ORDER NO. 2020-03  
AN ORDER EXEMPTING INDIVIDUALS FROM TRAVEL RELATED QUARANTINE  
IF SEEKING MEDICAL CARE AND TREATMENT**

Now on this day 14<sup>th</sup>, of April 2020, I Dennis Knudsen, M.D. the duly appointed Seward County Local Health Officer and Medical Consultant for the Seward County Health Department, in consultation with local leaders make the following order, pursuant to K.S.A. 65-129b, to mitigate the spread of the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) to Seward County, Kansas.

WHEREAS, the local Health Officer is authorized and required, pursuant to K.S.A. 65-119 and K.S.A. 65-129b and K.S.A. 65-202 to take make orders related to infectious or contagious disease, specifically in K.S.A. 65-129 to order an individual or group of individuals to go into quarantine until such no longer poses a substantial risk of transmitting the disease or condition to the public where there is actual or potential exposure to an infectious or contagious disease that is potentially life-threatening;

WHEREAS, I, the Local Health Officer have been appointed by the Board of County Commissioners acting as the Local Board of Health;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is an infectious or contagious disease that is potentially life-threatening and such conditions endanger health, safety and welfare of persons and property within the border of Seward County, Kansas;

WHEREAS, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the resulting epidemic in Kansas continue to threaten the life and health of our citizens and visitors as well as the vitality of the economy and remains a public disaster affecting life, health, property, and the public peace;

WHEREAS, there are currently States and counties in Kansas that are experiencing communitywide spread of Covid-19

WHEREAS, on the 12th day of March 2020, the Governor of the State of Kansas, Laura Kelly, issued a State of Disaster Emergency Proclamation finding that a public health emergency exists within the State of Kansas;

WHEREAS, Seward County Kansas declared through Resolution No. 2020-03 there was a state of local public health emergency on March 16, 2020, which was to continue and remain in effect until 60 days unless terminated earlier;

WHEREAS, I executed health order no. 2020-01 on April 1, 2020 with an effective date of April 3, 2020 and amended health order no. 2020-01 on April 3, 2020 (herein collectively "First Health Order") establishing a fourteen-day quarantine of individuals traveling to certain counties and states;

WHEREAS, I subsequently executed health order no. 2020-02 (herein "Second Health Order") which established a fourteen-day quarantine in Connecticut specific locations in

Oklahoma and Texas, in relatively close proximity to Seward County, which I found have communitywide spread of Covid-19;

WHEREAS, I find it necessary for the health of the community to exempt from the quarantine requirements those individuals traveling to quarantine locations set forth in the First Health Order and Second Health Order for the purposes of seeking medical care and treatment;

WHEREAS, this public health order is intended to supplement the First Health Order and Second Health Order.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Local Health Officer of Seward County, Kansas, pursuant to the authority stated above, that:

**Section 1. Added Medical Exemption to Quarantine Orders.**

The First Order and Second Health Order are hereby supplemented and modified as follows:

Individuals are specifically exempted from the quarantine requirements of the First Health Order and Second Health Order if said individuals, while seeking medical care or treatment, travel to locations that would otherwise subject them to a fourteen-day quarantine. Nonetheless, Businesses and organizations should contact the Seward County Health Department or Seward County Emergency Management for guidance in the event they have an employee who would otherwise be quarantined under the First Health Order or Second Health Order but is exempt by virtue of this section. If employees are allowed to work under the exception of this Section, employers are urged to implement protocols to ensure that the public is safe from potential exposure and that no employee comes to work symptomatic. All other exemptions set forth in the First Health Order and Second Health remain in effect.

**Section 3. Scope and Effect.**

All terms, conditions, and sections set forth in the First Health Order and Second Health remain in full force and effect unless specifically modified herein.

**Section 4. Modification of Order.**

This Order may be supplemented or modified as required for the effective and efficient management and control of the COVID-19 epidemic in Seward County by further order or directive of the Board of County Commissioners, acting as the Board of Health, or by the Seward County Local Health Officer.

**Section 5. Contesting Order.**

Pursuant to K.S.A. 65-129c, an individual or group of individuals isolated or quarantined may request a hearing in Seward County Kansas District court contesting the isolation or quarantine, as provided in article 15 of chapter 60 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated.

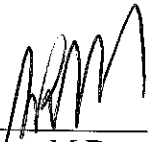
**Section 6. Effective Date and Termination.**

This Order is effective immediately and unless otherwise provided herein shall remain in effect through the expiration or termination of the First Order and Second Order, unless sooner amended, superseded, or rescinded.

**Section 7. Notice and Publication.**

It is determined that because of the number of individuals and geographical areas affected, it is impractical provide notice to all such individuals by giving them written copies this order. Affected individuals will be fully informed of the order using the best possible means available. Informing these individuals will include a copy of this order being published once in the official county newspaper.

IT IS SO ORDERED ON THIS 14<sup>th</sup> of April, 2020.



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Dennis Knudsen, M.D.  
Seward County Kansas Local Health Officer