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Executive Order Office of the Mayor City of Atlanta

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 2020-

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, on March 14, the Georgia State Supreme Court declared a statewide judicial emergency for a period of thirty days; 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, the CDC, recommends that for the next 8 weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the outbreak many persons throughout the United States, including in the Metro Atlanta Area, have been confined to their homes in order self-quarantine or are engaging in social distancing to slow the spread of the COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, many persons so affected 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.

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 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 16th day of March, 2020.

Keisha Lance Bottoms, Mayor

ATTESTED:

Municipal Clerk

Foris Webb, III Municipal Clerk