Emergency Order #2020-3 Supporting State Moratorium On Residential Evictions for Non-Payment of Rent

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, Mayor Armondo Pavone declared an emergency related to the spread of COVID-19 (the Proclamation of Emergency);

WHEREAS, the Proclamation of Emergency authorizes the City to exercise emergency powers to take actions without regard to time-consuming procedures or formalities that would otherwise be required by law to the extent so required under the exigencies of the situation;

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, Washington State Governor Jay Inslee issued Proclamation 20-19, the recitals of which are incorporated herein;

WHEREAS, Governor Inslee’s Proclamation 20-19 imposed a moratorium on certain residential evictions in order to protect public health and safety and prevent such evictions from further endangering those who have been impacted by the COVID-19 emergency, which has been classified as a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, with state and local orders in place restricting employment opportunities and discouraging social contacts, evicting people without the means or opportunity to find alternative housing would create an undue burden on the City’s ability to provide emergency services and put the evicted residents at significant risk.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Armondo Pavone, Mayor of the City of Renton, ORDER under the emergency powers granted to me under the Proclamation of Emergency that:

1. The above recitals are true and correct in all respects.

2. The City of Renton supports and reaffirms the state’s temporary emergency prohibition on residential evictions by all residential landlords operating residential rental property in the City of Renton.

3. Concurrent with the duration imposed in Governor Inslee’s Proclamation 20-19, City of Renton police officers are prohibited from serving or otherwise acting on eviction orders that are issued solely for default payment of rent related to such property. Nothing in this Order is intended to prohibit City police from exercising independent authority granted by state law to assist with evictions issues for other reasons, including but not limited to waste, nuisance, or commission of a crime on the premises.
Dated March 20, 2020

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Armondo Pavone, Mayor
City of Renton

Attest:

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Jason Seth, City Clerk