EMERGENCY ORDER CONCERNING REPORTING
COVID-19 AT WORK SITES

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, Governor Charlie Baker declared a state of emergency to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Mayor Jon Mitchell declared a citywide state of emergency to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak;

WHEREAS, the presence of individuals with COVID-19 at work sites poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others and creates an increased risk of widespread transmission of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the New Bedford Board of Health needs to know the work sites in New Bedford at which workers who have recently been physically present have tested positive for COVID-19, or have been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine based on a belief that the worker has or may have COVID-19, so that it can trace the spread of the virus in the City, and isolate potentially infected individuals;

NOW THEREFORE, Mayor Jon Mitchell and the New Bedford Board of Health, in order to prevent the transmission of COVID-19, hereby ORDER the following, effective at 11:59 P.M., May __, 2020:

(1) Any worker, whether a direct employee, leased or temporary employee, independent contractor, or other, who (a) has tested positive for COVID-19, or has been advised to self-quarantine by a health care provider based on a belief that the employee has or may have COVID-19; and (b) worked at a New Bedford work site in the 14 days prior to receiving such positive test or advice to self-quarantine, shall report such positive test or advice to self-quarantine to any individual or entity (e.g., employer, contractor) that hired them to work at such work site in New Bedford, within 24 hours of receiving such positive test or advice to self-quarantine;

(2) Any staffing agency that becomes aware that an employee who has worked at a New Bedford work site has tested positive for COVID-19, or has been advised to self-quarantine by a health care provider based on a belief that the employee has or may have COVID-19, shall, within 24 hours of receiving such information, report the number of employees who received such positive tests or advice to self-quarantine to any New Bedford work site employer where such employees worked and to the New Bedford Board of Health by phone and/or email, provided, however, that this provision shall not apply with respect to employees who were not physically present at a New Bedford work site in the 14 days prior to receiving such positive tests or advice to self-quarantine;

(3) Any employer or contractor who becomes aware that a worker, whether employed directly by the employer, through a staffing agency, as an independent contractor, or otherwise, who has worked at a New Bedford work site has tested positive for COVID-19, or has been
advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine based on a belief that the employee has or may have COVID-19, shall report the date and number of workers who received such positive tests or advice to self-quarantine to the New Bedford Board of Health by phone and/or email within 24 hours of receiving such information; provided however, that this provision shall not apply with respect to workers who were not physically present at the New Bedford work site in the 14 days prior to receiving such positive test or advice to self-quarantine.

Violation of this Order may result in a fine of $300 per day per violation and/or the commencement of court proceedings.

This Order shall remain in effect through the period of the Mayor’s Emergency Order.

Mayor Jon Mitchell

Dr. Patricia Andrade
Chair, Board of Health

May 5, 2020

May 4, 2020