



## THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO

*HOME OF THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME*

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact:** William J. Baker, Communications Director  
[wbaker@springfieldcityhall.com](mailto:wbaker@springfieldcityhall.com) / (413) 787-6109

### **City of Springfield Issues New Public Health Emergency Recommendations**

**Springfield, MA** – Following up on Governor Baker’s order to close all daycares and childcare centers across the Commonwealth, Mayor Domenic J. Sarno, upon the recommendation of Health Commissioner Helen Caulton-Harris, is strongly encouraging other venues to voluntarily adhere to and follow these Public Health Emergency recommendations by taking precautionary measures needed.

Due to the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, the city is reminding everyone to adhere to the social distancing recommendations and asking that certain venues take the precautionary measures needed during these public health emergency times by voluntarily discontinuing services. The city is asking that barber shops, salons, hairdressers, tattoo and piercing studios, massage parlors and spas, and nail salons all take the precautionary measures during these public health emergency times and voluntarily discontinue services as to adhere to the social distancing guidelines of remaining at least six (6) feet apart.

“After again meeting with my cabinet heads earlier this morning, Health Commissioner Helen Caulton-Harris and myself have agreed that during these Public Health Emergency times, we all need to take the precautionary measures needed to stay ahead of this growing outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19). I want to strongly encourage everyone to adhere to the social distancing guidelines of trying to remain six (6) feet apart to help lessen the potential spread of COVID-19.” Mayor Sarno said. “In addition, although it pains me to do so, we must continue to try to strike a

balance between serious health concerns and the nature of doing business. Upon the recommendation of Health Commissioner Helen Caulton-Harris, I want to encourage all of our city's barber shops, salons, hairdressers, tattoo and piercing studios, massage parlors and spas, and nail salons to all take the precautionary measures needed during these public health emergency times and voluntarily discontinue services so to adhere to the social distancing guidelines. I do not ask this lightly, as my late father Alfonso Sarno was a barber. However, the Governor just recently issued that all daycares and childcare centers are to close starting Monday, March 23, I want the City of Springfield to do our very best to stay ahead of this growing concern to help reduce the spread of the coronavirus. It is quite possible that the state might consider mandating the shutdown of these venues and services in the future. Again, I ask this out of an abundance of caution and in the name of public health and safety – we must all take this public health emergency seriously! As my administration has done before with prior natural and manmade disasters and just as important – we will get through this together and for the better as one.”

The City of Springfield will continue to monitor the COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) situation. The city is committed to keeping our residents and business community informed about the latest developments. To stay up-to-date on all the latest information we encourage everyone to visit the City's website at [www.springfield-ma.gov](http://www.springfield-ma.gov).

The City of Springfield has a dedicated Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update webpage that is continually updated with new information and developments from our health experts, the city, the state, federal government and other important agencies and organizations.

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