WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic State of Emergency has been ongoing in the City of Hoboken and the State of New Jersey since early March 2020; and,

WHEREAS, significant restrictions, including the shutdown of non-essential businesses and “stay home” orders were put in place on a State and local level in order to flatten the curve and inhibit the spread of COVID-19 from March 2020 through the summer of 2020; and,

WHEREAS, as the rate of reported cases decreased throughout the summer, action was taken to lift or lessen certain restrictions; and,

WHEREAS, throughout the Fall, including the months of September, October, and November, the numbers of new cases, hospitalizations, the rate of transmission, and the positivity rate of COVID-19 in New Jersey have steadily increased; and,

WHEREAS, as of November 16, 2020, the State of New Jersey has reported extremely high numbers of new COVID-19 cases, close to the numbers reported at the peak of the first wave of the pandemic, including over 8,935 new cases over the course of the weekend; and,

WHEREAS, health experts have predicted a “second wave” of the COVID-19 virus this winter, to coincide with flu season, and based upon recent statistics, the “second wave” seems to be here; and,
WHEREAS, contact tracing is an extremely important aspect of controlling the spread of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, the Office of Emergency Management finds it necessary to implement additional precautions related to contact tracing to guard against the threat created by the renewed surge of COVID-19 cases; and,

WHEREAS, I find it necessary to direct that certain businesses, including bars, restaurants, and fitness/health clubs, and beauty, grooming, and wellness establishments maintain detailed contact tracing records, and that employees of Hoboken businesses alert the Hoboken Health Department of positive COVID-19 tests.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sgt. William Montanez, Office of Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Hoboken, New Jersey by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Statutes of this State and the laws of the City of Hoboken, do hereby, ORDER, DIRECT AND ISSUE THE FOLLOWING:

Section 1. Contact Tracing

A. Bars, restaurants, fitness/health clubs, and beauty, grooming and/or wellness establishments (“establishments”) within the City of Hoboken must obtain and record detailed contact information for all patrons, including time of arrival, name, phone number, email and/or address.

B. If patrons arrive in a group (for example, a restaurant reservation for a group dining together), the establishment may take the contact information from one (1) individual within the group, so long as this individual represents that they have access to the contact information for the other individuals within the group and understands that they will be required to provide this information to contact tracers when and if necessary.

C. If a patron or patrons refuse to provide contact tracing information, the establishment may refuse service.

D. If a patron refuses to provide contact tracing information but the establishment does not wish to refuse service, the establishment must make a record of the refusal including the date/time, number in the party, and any other relevant details (such as location within the restaurant, service provided, etc.)

E. If an establishment becomes aware that an employee or patron has tested positive/been diagnosed with COVID-19, the establishment must also alert the Hoboken Health Department.

F. This Order only requires the establishment collecting the information to share the information with Health Department officials conducting contract tracing and no other
agency. The records required to be maintained under this Order can be destroyed after maintaining them for 30 days.

Section 2. Enforcement

The Office of Emergency Management and Police Department are hereby authorized and directed to enforce this Executive Order.

Section 3. Regulations:

The Office of Emergency Management, Administration, and the Police Department may be permitted to promulgate such reasonable internal regulations as to effectuate the intent and purpose of this Order.

Section 4. Severability:

If any part of this Order, or the application thereof, is held to be invalid, the remainder of this Order shall not be affected thereby, and this Order shall otherwise continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order, and each of them, are severable.

Section 5. Cooperation:

All city agencies and employees shall fully cooperate with this Order.

Section 6. Effect:

This Order shall take effect as of Friday, November 20, 2020 and supersedes all inconsistent Orders.

APPROVED:

November 17, 2020

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SGT. WILLIAM MONTANEZ
COORDINATOR,
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

ATTESTED TO AND RECORDED BY:
This Order shall remain in the custody of the City Clerk. Certified copies are available upon request.