



1018 Second Avenue South, North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CITY OF NORTH MYRTLE BEACH FACE-COVERINGS ORDINANCE--
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS WITH ANSWERS**

North Myrtle Beach, SC – July 1, 2020 – The answers provided here are given from the City's perspective. Individual business owners may have additional protocols in place at their businesses.

QUESTION: Do customers have to wear face-coverings to enter a restaurant or while in a restaurant?

ANSWER: No, only restaurant employees engaged in face-to-face interactions with customers are required to wear face-coverings.

QUESTION: Does this law apply to accommodations?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION: Do I have to wear a face-covering on the beach or anywhere outside?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION: Do I have to wear a face-covering to enter my workout place or gym, and, do I have to wear it while working out?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION: Are there exemptions in the ordinance?

ANSWER: Yes. If you cannot safely wear a face-covering because of age or a health condition or you are unable to remove the face-covering without the help of others, you are exempt. Also, a person whose religious beliefs prevent them from wearing a face-covering is exempt.

QUESTION: Can someone question me if I say I cannot wear a face-covering based on your exemptions?

ANSWER: They should not question you. Once you say you cannot wear a face-covering due to one of the exemptions contained in the law, you should be allowed to proceed.

QUESTION: You have exemptions in your law. Why include them when people will just take advantage of them.

ANSWER: The exemptions are there to protect the rights of those they apply to. If someone takes advantage of the exemptions, that is unfortunate. We are trying to work together to reduce the surge of confirmed COVID-19 cases here.

QUESTION: Does this law apply in any way to HOAs and POAs?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION: Did the Mayor pass this law?

ANSWER: City Council passed the law. The Mayor is a member of City Council. Each member of City Council has one vote. It was a unanimous vote.

The Mayor's signature appears at the bottom of the document as acknowledgement that the law did pass. This is standard practice for this type of ordinance and this may have led to some public confusion about who did what.

The Mayor is recognized as head of City government for all ceremonial purposes and by the Governor for purposes of military law. The Mayor also presides over the meetings of the City Council.

If you have additional questions regarding the City's emergency face-coverings ordinance, please send them to Public Information Officer Pat Dowling at pcdowling@nmb.us.

To access a copy of the ordinance, which goes into effect July 2 at 12:00 Noon, please visit www.NMB.us and look under "Press Releases" on the home page.

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