## CATHERINE D. ROBINSON MAYOR

JOHN ROGERS VICE-MAYOR

DR. ALVIN B. JACKSON, JR. CITY MANAGER



Crossroads of Flagler County

**COMMISSIONERS:** 

BILL BAXLEY

DONNIE NOBLES

TONYA GORDON

Honorable Ron DeSantis Governor of Florida

Dear Governor DeSantis,

Thank you for the leadership you have shown since becoming Governor of our great state. I have been so impressed with the decisions you have made. As a health care professional, I have watched your press conferences daily so I could hear your decisions firsthand as I supervise 10 essential employees who have worked diligently since March. Six employees have worked from home for over three months and five work in the office, utilizing the distance isolation and wiping down surfaces all around us. We wear masks to move from one office to another in our facility. I tell you this to show that I understand the safety issues surrounding the COVID19 virus.

Our City has struggled over the past years, as our businesses are small in nature. They were starting to be more stable with the booming economy. However, many of our businesses have struggled over the last three months to stay afloat. Those who have been able to operate, have survived up to this point. The owners who were mandated to close are about to lose their businesses. The local bars and veteran organizations are looking for support to be able to reopen, safely abiding with the rules and guidelines set up through CDC and your office. They are barely holding on, hoping they can survive to re-open and begin to look rebuild their future. As Mayor of Bunnell, I worry about my city, the people who live and work here, and the struggles our businesses endure. They know that I do not have the authority to open their bars and organizations, however, they are desperate and looking for any help they can get.

I understand that you have reservations regarding opening the bars or you have already announced this change. I also realize that my business owners' story is not new or unique to my city. I can only surmise that part of the issue is the distancing and safety issues you want to protect. My bar owners are committed to adhering to the guidelines in order to open their businesses and work to get back on their feet. I respect the incredibly difficult place you are in and respect your decisions completely. I continue to yield to your authority and the experts that you rely on. Thank you for taking the time to review my business owners' concerns and my request to put in place, as soon as you are comfortable, to reopen this group. Sincerely,

Catherine D. Robinson Mayor, City of Bunnell 386-503-8837

crobinson@bunnellcity.us

Catherine De Robinsa)

CC:

Paul.Renner@myflorida.gov Hutson.Travis@flsenate.gov ajackson@bunnellcity.us