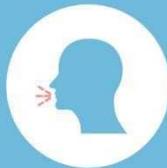
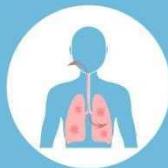
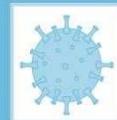


# Coronavirus



## MAYOR'S JUNE 5, 2020 STATEMENT

The Honorable Joseph M. Corradino

I write this with a heavy heart, but still with the optimism and faith in our community that has gotten us this far during the coronavirus pandemic.

The message of the week is to continue our unity. Stay in good spirits, stick together, listen and remain understanding of each other. We are doing well despite the national condition and compounding challenges. We need to stay focused on solutions.

There are no words for the unbelievable and unacceptable situation coming out of Minneapolis with the murder of George Floyd. This has delayed our progress not only in defeating COVID-19, but also in achieving our goals as a community and nation.

There is no debate on these issues. Murder is wrong. Brutality is wrong. Black lives matter. We all must be treated equally. We cannot allow this to divide us. Racism is older than America itself. It's wrong. In our lifetimes, it's been an ever-present focus. It's still not enough. The issue remains systemic. We need to keep at it until racism is eradicated from our country.

The United States is built on fundamental principles...life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Our constitution makes clear that in order to form a more perfect union, we must constantly strive to establish justice, peace, liberty, and insure domestic tranquility.

In Pinecrest, our Citizens' Bill of Rights, written at our founding nearly 25 years ago states that our "government has been created to protect the governed. In order to provide the public with full and accurate information, to promote efficient administration management, to make government more accountable, and to insure to all persons fair and equitable treatment." Our goals, objectives, policies, procedures, and training is focused on fairness and non-discrimination.

It's incredibly frustrating to be here again, after all we have been through and tried to achieve as a country. It reminds us that it is our never-ending challenge as a nation that we must all do our part to live up to these ideals, and guarantee justice and equality for all. We feel it is imperative that we express our dismay and urge all institutions of power to ensure equal justice is available to all. In Pinecrest, we will continue to shoulder our responsibility in doing so.

Update on the issues:

- On the COVID-19 front, we maintain our hospital capacity at about 80%. The incidents of the disease continue trending down. Hospitalizations and deaths remain steady and flat two weeks after the partial relaxation of the regulations.

We did have a high number of new positive cases coming from nursing homes. The opening of beaches has been delayed, with no timetable for opening. The opening of summer camps is set for June 8th. The opening of gyms is also set for June 8th. Dog parks and doubles tennis are being reconsidered. Testing is highly prevalent. We still search for accurate antibody tests. We remain safer at home, or practicing distancing and great hygiene when we are out. The disease is still with us and will be for quite some time.

- On the George Floyd situation, our hearts go out to all. What happened to Mr. Floyd and many of the events that have unfolded since are unacceptable. We stand in solidarity with the Black community and all of those affected by racial injustices.

Pinecrest with all other cities and the county remains committed to guaranteeing our right to free speech and ability to demonstrate peacefully.

To do so, a curfew has been put in place indefinitely. In Pinecrest, there have been no issues. County-wide, we have done as expected; demonstrated peacefully and expelled the agitators.

We continue to monitor potential threats with other agencies and the Department of Homeland Security. We have been working with the Miami-Dade County League of Cities to assure a coordinated message and response.

The Village Council will formally address this situation at our next council meeting as a unified group, just as we have done as we tackle our most pernicious issues.

- On the weather front, it's hurricane season. Tropical Storm Cristobal is in the Gulf and on the move. This is the third named storm, and it came on the second day of the season.

Just a reminder to prepare early. Obtaining food, water, batteries, and making evacuation plans in a pinch will all be more challenging this year.

The Village is ready. Over the past year we have been working with FPL on their \$20 million program of undergrounding Pinecrest's most vulnerable electrical lines. This equals 20% of our total lines. We have advanced our stormwater and drainage master plan projects. We have been cleaning our drains. We have been working with telecommunications companies to install 5G service so that we can better work from home. We know how to deal with this.

On a personal note, we understand that this is a time of incredible uncertainty. It's difficult not to be able to safely visit and hug your parents, children or grandchildren. It's painful to have to console a scared child who is seeing horrible pictures on television, is unsure of the future, or has missed the memories of a real graduation. It's unsettling to see our neighbors scared and frustrated because they are unable to pay the bills. And in Miami-Dade County, one of the most diverse communities in the nation, it's disheartening to once again, see the pain of people who are treated differently because of the color of their skin.

Because of this, we need to double-down on what we have been doing so well for so long. Stay unified. Remain patient. Continue to be kind. Take the time to listen, to understand what each other is thinking and feeling, and why. Doing this has never been needed more than it is in this moment, in this year and until we have overcome all of the things we face. United we stand and divided we fall. We will come out of this standing.

As always, we at the Village of Pinecrest are here to make this as stress free as we possibly can. If you need to contact me, please do so at 305-606-2364 or [jcorradino@pinecrest-fl.gov](mailto:jcorradino@pinecrest-fl.gov). Or contact our staff ([manager@pinecrest-fl.gov](mailto:manager@pinecrest-fl.gov)) and Village Council ([council@pinecrest-fl.gov](mailto:council@pinecrest-fl.gov)). Each and every one of us is working hard every day as a unified team.