



MONO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER

Essential Business Operations: Offices

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November 22, 2020

This Order limits access to offices that qualify as essential businesses (as defined) in order to protect employees of such offices and the public and reduce the spread of COVID-19.

WHEREAS, a declaration of emergency was issued by the Governor of the State of California on March 4, 2020, and local emergencies have been declared in both Mono County and in the Town of Mammoth Lakes in response to the virus COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on October 6, 2020, the State issued its COVID-19 Blueprint for a Safer Economy, which is a system for loosening, or tightening, restrictions on activities within counties throughout the state to control the spread of COVID based on epidemiological data and virus prevalence; and

WHEREAS, the Blueprint establishes a four-tiered system for ranking counties based on test positivity and adjusted case rates. Under that system, counties ranked in Tier 1 (purple, or “Widespread”) have the highest test positivity and case rates and, correspondingly, the highest level of restrictions; counties ranked in Tier 2 (red, or “Substantial”) have the next highest, and Tiers 3 (orange, or “Moderate”) and 4 (yellow, or “Minimal”) have lesser rates and restrictions; and

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2020, due to an increase in COVID-19 case and positivity rates within Mono County which exceeded the applicable threshold for small counties, Mono County was placed into the Red (“Substantial”) Tier, and corresponding restrictions were imposed on activities within the County, effective November 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, among those restrictions for counties in the Red and Purple Tiers is the requirement that office employees work remotely, except where the office is an essential business and cannot provide its services or perform its business remotely; and

WHEREAS, while some offices within Mono County, including government, health care and other offices providing essential services, will remain open for the sole purpose of providing services which cannot be delivered remotely, it is necessary to limit

access to such facilities to protect the health of employees and customers/clients and minimize the spread of COVID-19 in the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, under the authority of California Health and Safety Code sections 101040, 101085, 120175 and 120175.5 and Title 17 California Code of Regulations, Section 2501, the Mono County Health Officer **HEREBY MAKES THE FOLLOWING ORDERS:**

1. Offices within Mono County which are essential businesses, as defined in paragraph 3 below, and therefore authorized to continue operating while Mono County remains in the Red or Purple Tier under the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy, shall limit the physical presence of employees in their facilities to the staff necessary to carry out or provide essential services who cannot do so remotely. All other staff shall work remotely.
2. Members of the public receiving in-person services or products from an office that is an essential business and professional couriers making deliveries to such businesses, may enter the facility of an essential business if they have made an appointment or other arrangement with the staff of the essential business prior to entry, remain in the facility only so long as necessary to receive the service/product or make the delivery, and comply with all social distancing, masking and sanitation requirements of the business. (Note: a prior arrangement as used in this Order may include a sign posted outside the facility which allows entry to all members of the public receiving essential services or making deliveries). All other members of the public are prohibited from entering the facility of an office that is an essential business.
3. An "Essential business" is any business or activity (or a business/activity that employs/utilizes workers) designated by the State Public Health Officer as "Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers" set forth in: <https://covid19.ca.gov/img/EssentialCriticalInfrastructureWorkers.pdf> as that list may be updated from time-to-time, and referenced in Executive Order N-33-20 issued by the Governor of the State of California, including, for example, health care providers, government services, critical infrastructure providers, pharmacies and grocery stores.
4. When the State of California has issued an industry guidance, or any subsequent amendments thereto, with mandatory or suggested restrictions and/or measures to be implemented by a particular sector of essential business, every essential business in that sector must comply with the guidance as well as with all measures required by this Order. In the event of conflict, the stricter requirement shall apply.
5. This Order shall remain in effect so long as Mono County remains in the Red Tier or Purple Tier under California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy, or any successor

system to the Blueprint which requires that office work be performed remotely (except for essential businesses).

General Provisions

1. This Order is issued as a result of the worldwide pandemic of COVID-19 disease, also known as “novel coronavirus”.

2. This Order is issued based on evidence of transmission of COVID-19, scientific evidence regarding the most effective approach to slow transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically, as well as best practices as currently known and available to protect the public from the risk of spread of or exposure to COVID-19.

3. This Order is issued in accordance with, and incorporates by reference, the: March 4, 2020 Proclamation of a State Emergency issued by Governor Gavin Newsom; the March 15, 2020 Declaration of Local Health Emergency based on an imminent and proximate threat to public health from the introduction of novel COVID-19 in Mono County; the March 17, 2020 Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mono proclaiming the existence of a Local Emergency in the County of Mono regarding COVID-19 and ratifying and extending the Declaration of Local Health Emergency due to COVID-19; the guidance issued on March 11, 2020 by the California Department of Public Health regarding large gatherings of 250 people or more; Governor Gavin Newsom’s Executive Order N-25-20 of March 12, 2020 preparing the State to commandeer hotels and other places of temporary residence, medical facilities, and other facilities that are suitable as places of temporary residence or medical facilities as necessary for quarantining, isolating or treating individuals who test positive for COVID-19 or who have had a high-risk exposure and are thought to be in the incubation period; the guidance issued on March 15, 2020 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the California Department of Public Health, and other public health officials through the United States and around the world recommending the cancellation of gatherings involving more than fifty (50) or more persons in a single space at the same time; the March 16, 2020 order of the Public Health Officer prohibiting all gatherings with expected presence above ten (10) individuals; and Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-33-20 of March 19, 2020 ordering all persons to stay at home to protect the health and well-being of all Californians and to establish consistency across the state in order to slow the spread of COVID-19.

4. This Order is made in accordance with all applicable State and Federal laws, including but not limited to: Health and Safety Code sections 101030, et seq.; Health and Safety Code sections 120100, et seq.; and Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations section 2501.

5. To the extent necessary, pursuant to Government Code sections 26602 and 41601 and Health and Safety Code section 101029, the Health Officer requests that the Sheriff

and all Chiefs of Police in the County ensure compliance with and enforcement of this Order.

6. This Order is made because of the propensity of the virus to spread person-to-person and also because the virus is causing physical property loss or damage due to its proclivity to attach to surfaces for prolonged periods of time.

7. Copies of this Order shall promptly be posted on the County of Mono's Public Health Department's website (monohealth.com) and provided to any member of the public requesting a copy of this Order.

Thomas Boo, MD

Date November 22, 2020

Thomas Boo, MD
Mono County Health Officer