

COVID-19 UPDATE

COUNTY EMERGENCY HEALTH ORDERS

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT CEO / HR DIRECTOR

As you know, COVID-19 event has created an ever-changing landscape of orders, challenges, adapting medical advice, etc. We need to be open-minded and understanding that our world will not be as predictable as we've come to know, but instead will speckle us with new challenges and obstacles. Our County Board of Supervisors, as well as political leaders throughout the state and federal levels, have been grappling with the next right steps. This is a complex set of issues and concerns, without any recent precedent as to navigating this situation in our modern society, wherein there has been ease of travel, congested cities, and numerous opportunities for crowded entertainment options.

The County Board of Supervisors has lifted the County Emergency Health Orders, as follows:

- **The Riverside County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0 at a special board meeting on May 8, 2020, to direct the rescission of most local health orders to align with the governor's statewide stay at home order. On May 9, 2020, both CEO Johnson and Public Health Officer Kaiser signed the amended school orders and the recession of other County orders to bring alignment with the State orders.**
- **Effective May 9, 2020, face coverings and six feet of social distancing became strongly recommended whenever practical and within reason. Limitations on short term rentals and golf course operations will be rescinded and in alignment with state orders.**

- **The board also voted to keep local orders in place for primary schools (i.e., grades K-12), and remove local restrictions on higher education and vocational schools.**
- **Riverside County Public Health Officer Dr. Cameron Kaiser and Director of Emergency Services George Johnson signed the amended school order and the rescission of the remaining three orders on May 9.**
- **The board action also included adopting a best practices framework to guide the development for reopening Riverside County businesses, a plan that went before the board on Tuesday, May 12.**
- **The county will continue to provide support to Riverside County cities with questions on how the governor's orders apply locally.**

A County Committee has been formed and has begun meeting to create the guidelines for readmitting our customers and employees to the workplace. Since COVID-19 continues to be a health threat and we are still technically experiencing a pandemic, the Committee is mindful of the health and safety of both our employees and customers as we readmit people into our County buildings.

The current Guidelines for Employees and Guidelines for Managers and Supervisors cover many of the topics related to addressing COVID-19 challenges in our workforce. HR will update the Guidance booklets and create a series of topic-specific attachments to aid our departments with guidance and best practices as we've been able to discern. The Guidance booklets are designed to be fluid and responsive to new orders and medical guidance, etc., as they are updated.

It is anticipated that the Guidance booklets will be ready within one to two weeks.


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