



INYO COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES PUBLIC HEALTH BRIEF

James Richardson, M.D.
Public Health Officer, Inyo County

INYO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER ORDER **APPLICABLE TO BUSINESSES OPERATING** **DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC** **DATE ORDER ISSUED: MARCH 31, 2020**

Please read this Order carefully. Violation or failure to comply with this Order is a crime punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both. (Ca Health & Safety Code § 120295)

Summary: Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. As of March 30, 2020, there are over 693,224 cases in the world and over 33,106 deaths. In California, there are 5,763 cases and 135 deaths. And in Inyo County, there are eight confirmed cases. We can expect the number of cases to increase significantly should action not be taken to decrease the spread of the disease.

COVID-19 can be sneezed, coughed, or exhaled into the air by infected individuals. Transmission of the disease can be greatly reduced through community mitigation measures that decrease the likelihood of being exposed to an infected person. For this reason, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20 on March 19, 2020, which requires all individuals in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of the federal critical infrastructure sectors. On March 20, 2020, the Inyo County Health Officer issued an Order reinforcing Executive Order N-33-20 by, among other things, clarifying the closure requirements and limitations for certain non-essential businesses.

This Order further reinforces Executive Order N-33-20 by imposing specific operational requirements on those businesses still operating (legally) during the pandemic. The requirements are necessary in order to prevent businesses from spreading the disease. This Order applies within the County of Inyo, beginning March 31, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. and continues in effect until lifted by the Health Officer, subject to the terms and conditions more particularly set forth below:

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040, 101085, AND 120175, THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF INYO IMPOSES THE FOLLOWING ORDERS ON ALL BUSINESSES OPERATING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC:


- Businesses shall not allow any employees, agents, or contractors in the workplace (i.e., the business premises or job site) if they are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19,

including fever, coughing, or shortness of breath. Businesses shall order any employee, agent, or contractor who exhibits these symptoms while in the workplace to immediately vacate the premises.

- Businesses shall direct any employees exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 to stay home and self-isolate. Employees who are diagnosed with COVID-19, or are suspected of having COVID-19, or have been exposed to a person suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 must read and comply with any applicable self-isolation and self-quarantine requirements set forth in the Health Officer's Order dated March 27, 2020:
<https://www.inyocounty.us/sites/default/files/2020-03/FINAL%20SIGNED%20HO%20Order%20RE%20Isolation%20Quarantine%203.27.20.pdf>
- Businesses shall post in a prominent public place all Inyo County Health Officer orders (i.e., not only this Order and past Orders, but also any future Orders). Said Orders provide critical information and legal requirements for employees, agents, contractors, and customers of all businesses operating during the COVID-19 pandemic, which must be followed in order to decrease the spread of the disease. The Orders may be found at on the Inyo County website under the COVID-19 link. www.inyocounty.us

As the Health Officer for the County of Inyo, I encourage voluntary compliance with this Health Officer's Order, but both civil and criminal fines, imprisonment, and enforcement actions are permitted under the Health and Safety Code. If necessary to protect public health and safety, the Health Officer may also order the temporary closure of any business violating this Order.

Any persons who wish to discuss this please contact the Department of Health and Human Services at (760) 873-3305.


James Richardson, MD
Health Officer

3-31-20
Date