



# County of San Diego

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WILMA J. WOOTEN, M.D.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER

## ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER AND EMERGENCY REGULATIONS (Effective May 8, 2020)

Pursuant to California Health and Safety Code sections 101040, 120175, and 120175.5 (b) the Health Officer of the County of San Diego (Health Officer) **ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

Effective 12:00 a.m. on Friday, May 8, 2020, and continuing until further notice, the following will be in effect for San Diego County (county):

1. All persons are to remain in their homes or at their place of residence, except for employees or customers travelling to and from essential businesses, reopened businesses, or essential activities as defined in section 20, below, or to participate in individual or family outdoor activity as allowed by this Order.
2. All public or private “gatherings,” as defined in section 20 below, are prohibited.
3. All businesses not meeting the definition of essential business or reopened business in section 20 below are referred to in this Order as “non-essential businesses” and shall be and remain closed for the duration of this Order. All essential businesses and reopened businesses must comply with the requirements of this Order. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a non-essential business may remain open if its employees and owners can provide its services from home, including by telecommuting, without direct contact with the public.
4. All public or private schools, colleges, and universities shall not hold classes or other school activities where students gather on the school campus. Parents of minor children shall take steps to ensure said children are not participating in activities prohibited by this Order.
5. Child daycare and child care providers shall operate under the following conditions: i) child

care should be carried out in stable groups of 12 or fewer (“stable” means that the same 12 or fewer children are in the same group each day); ii) children should not change from one group to another; iii) if more than one group of children is cared for at one facility, each group should be in a separate area; iv) groups should not mix with each other; and v) childcare providers should remain solely with one group of children, to the extent possible. Employees of such businesses, and the children being cared for, are not required to wear face coverings as described in section 9 while present at the daycare of child care facility. Child daycare and childcare providers shall establish health check and temperature screening requirements to ensure children and employees with a temperature of 100 degrees or above do not enter the facility. Restroom and other surfaces children regularly contact shall be sanitized with a disinfectant effective against coronavirus on a regular schedule and between groups occupying a particular area.

6. “Non-essential personnel,” as defined in section 20 below, are prohibited from entry into any hospital or long-term care facility. All essential personnel who are COVID-19 positive or show any potential signs or symptoms of COVID-19 are strictly prohibited from entry into hospitals or long-term care facilities. Notwithstanding the foregoing, individuals requiring medical care for COVID-19 or related conditions may be admitted to hospitals or other medical facilities if the hospital or medical facility is appropriate for treating COVID-19 and has adequate precautions in place to protect its patients, medical personnel and staff.
7. Hospitals and healthcare providers shall take measures to preserve and prioritize resources. Hospitals and healthcare providers may authorize and perform non-emergent or elective surgeries or procedures based on their determination of clinical need and supply capacity, and where consistent with State guidance.
8. Hospitals, healthcare providers, and commercial testing laboratories shall report all COVID-19 test results to the Public Health Officer immediately after such results are received.
9. All persons two year old or older who are present in the county shall have possession of a face covering described in California Department of Public Health Face Covering Guidance issued on April 1, 2020, (available at: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Face-Coverings-Guidance.aspx> ), when they leave their home or place of residence, shall wear the face covering whenever they are in a business or within six feet of another person who is not a member of their family or household. Persons with a medical or mental health condition, or developmental disability that prevents wearing a face covering shall be exempt from this

requirement.

10. All essential businesses that allow members of the public to enter a facility must prepare and post a “Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol” on the form available at: [https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/Epidemiology/covid19/SOCIAL\\_DISTANCING AND SANITATION PROTOCOL\\_04022020\\_V1.pdf](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/Epidemiology/covid19/SOCIAL_DISTANCING_AND_SANITATION_PROTOCOL_04022020_V1.pdf) ), or on a form required by another governmental entity requiring substantially similar information, for each of their facilities open to the public in the county. The Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol must be posted at or near the entrance of the relevant facility, and shall be easily viewable by the public and employees. A copy of the Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol must also be provided to each employee performing work at the facility. All essential businesses shall implement the Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol and provide evidence of its implementation to any authority enforcing this Order upon demand. The Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol must ensure all required measures are implemented and must identify and require measures necessary to implement social distancing are implemented at each facility that will ensure social distancing and sanitation at that particular facility. If the measures identified and implemented are not effective in maintaining proper social distancing and sanitation, the business shall promptly modify its Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocols to ensure proper social distancing and sanitation. Any business that fails to successfully implement social distancing and sanitation may be required to close.
  
11. All reopened businesses must prepare and post a “Safe Reopening Plan” on the form available at: [https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/Epidemiology/covid19/Community\\_Sector\\_Support/BusinessesandEmployers/SafeReopeningPlanTemplate.pdf](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/Epidemiology/covid19/Community_Sector_Support/BusinessesandEmployers/SafeReopeningPlanTemplate.pdf) for each of their facilities in the county. The Safe Reopening Plan must be posted at or near the entrance of the relevant facility, and shall be easily viewable by the public and employees. A copy of the Safe Reopening Plan must also be provided to each employee performing work at the facility. All reopened businesses shall implement the Safe Reopening Plan and provide evidence of its implementation to any authority enforcing this Order upon demand. The Safe Reopening Plan must ensure all required measures are implemented. If the measures identified and implemented are not effective in maintaining proper social distancing and sanitation, the business shall promptly modify its Safe Reopening Plan to ensure proper social distancing and sanitation. Any business that fails to comply with its Safe Reopening Plan may be required to close.
  
12. Effective 12:00 a.m. on May 8, 2020, each essential business and reopened business shall:

- a. Require all employees to wear face coverings as described in section 9 above; and,
- b. Shall conduct temperature screening of all employees prohibiting employees with a temperature of 100 degrees or more from entering the workplace. Symptom screening (prohibiting employees from entering if they have a cough, shortness of breath or trouble breathing or at least two of the following: fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat or new loss of taste or smell) may be used only when a thermometer is not available.

13. For Parks Only - Each public park and recreation area, shall operate in compliance with the Protocol found at <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/Epidemiology/covid19/parks-beaches-social-distancing-protocol.pdf> created and implemented by the operator of the park. The public shall not congregate or participate in active sport activities at a park with the exception of members of a single family or household if authorized pursuant to the Protocol applicable to the park. Any park at which the Protocol requirements cannot be effectively implemented shall close. Recreational boating shall be allowed provided all occupants of a boat are from the same household.

14. For Beaches Only - All parking lots at public beaches shall be closed. Beaches shall be used solely for walking, running, hiking, equestrian or bicycle riding (where allowed). The public shall not congregate or participate in active sport activities at said facilities. Swimming, body surfing, boogie boarding, surfing, kite surfing, paddle boarding, kayaking, snorkeling and scuba diving from the shore may be allowed in the ocean and bays connected thereto. Beaches where social distancing requirements cannot be effectively implemented shall close. All other restrictions applicable to beaches pursuant to other sections of this Order shall remain in effect.

15. To enhance recreational opportunities in the county, private and public golf courses may be open for limited use provided the owner or operator of the golf course has completed and fully implements a Golf Course Physical Distancing & Safety Plan for San Diego County and submitted a copy of the completed form to the Public Health Officer at least two days prior to opening. Golf courses shall conduct temperature screening of all employees and customers and anyone with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher shall not be permitted to enter the facility.

16. All essential businesses and reopened businesses that remain in operation in accordance with the Order shall make every effort to use telecommuting for their workforces.

17. A strong recommendation is made that all persons who are 65 years old or older, have a chronic underlying condition, or have a compromised immune system self-quarantine themselves at home or other suitable location.
18. All persons arriving in the county from international locations identified on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Warning Level 2 or 3 Travel Advisory (available at: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>) shall be subject to 14-day home or other suitable location quarantine and self-monitoring.
19. Persons who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, or who are likely to have COVID-19, shall comply with the Order of the Health Officer titled: “Isolation of All Persons with or Likely to have COVID-19”, or as subsequently amended. Persons who have a close contact with a person who either has COVID-19, or is likely to have COVID-19, shall comply with the Order of the Health Officer titled: “Quarantine of Persons Exposed to COVID-19,” or as subsequently amended. Both orders are available at: [https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/community\\_epidemiology/dc/2019-nCoV/health-order.html](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/community_epidemiology/dc/2019-nCoV/health-order.html).  
If a more specific isolation or quarantine order is issued to a person, that order shall be followed.
20. For purposes of this Order:
- a. “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. For the purposes of this Order, the following businesses in the Food and Agriculture Sector are considered “groceries” or “other retail that sells food and beverages”: grocery stores, corner stores and convenience stores, liquor stores that sell food, farmer’s markets, food banks, farm and produce stands, supermarkets, big box stores that sell groceries and essentials, or similar business that sell food so long as the store has a current permit related to the sale of food and/or beverages from the San Diego County Department of Environmental Health.
  - b. “Gathering” is any event or convening that brings together more than one person in a single room or single indoor or outdoor space at the same time, including people in multiple vehicles in one location. A gathering does not include:
    - i. A gathering consisting only of members of a single family or household.
    - ii. Operations at airports, public transportation or other spaces where persons in

transit are able to practice social distancing.

- iii. Operations at essential businesses as defined in section 19a above and reopened businesses as defined in 19f below and where the other requirements set forth in this Order are followed.
- c. “Long term care facility” is a facility serving adults that require assistance with activities of daily living, including a skilled nursing facility, and that is licensed by the California Department of Community Care and Licensing, or the California Department of Public Health.
- d. “Non-essential personnel” are employees, contractors, or members of the public who do not perform treatment, maintenance, support, or administrative tasks deemed essential to the healthcare mission of the long-term care facility or hospital. Non-essential personnel do not include first responders, nor State, federal, or local officials, investigators, or medical personnel carrying out lawful duties. Non-essential personnel do not include visitors to hospitals and long-term care facilities who are granted entry by the facility’s director, or designee, because they are family or friends who are visiting a resident in an end of life or similar situation, are parents or guardians visiting a child who is a patient, or because of any other circumstances deemed appropriate by the facility director, or designee, and where appropriate precautions by the facility that follow federal, State, and local public health guidance regarding COVID-19 are followed.
- e. “Social distancing” is maintaining a six-foot separation from all persons except for household members, first responders and medical providers or employees conducting temperature screenings.
- f. “Reopened business” is a business that is not an essential business as stated in section 20a above, and has reopened in conformance with the State of California’s Resilience Roadmap (available at: <https://covid19.ca.gov/roadmap/>), as may be subsequently amended

21. This Order is issued as a result of the World Health Organization’s declaration of a worldwide pandemic of COVID-19 disease, also known as “novel coronavirus.”

22. This Order is issued based on scientific evidence regarding the most effective approaches to slow the transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically, as well as best practices as currently known and available to protect vulnerable members of the public from avoidable risk of serious illness or death resulting from exposure to COVID-19. The age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population of the county places it at risk

for serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19. Although most individuals who contract COVID-19 do not become seriously ill, persons with mild symptoms and asymptomatic persons with COVID-19 may place other vulnerable members of the public—such as older adults, and those with underlying health conditions—at significant risk.

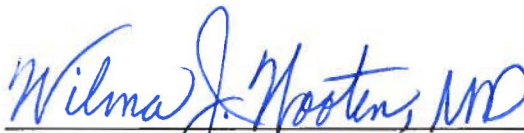
23. The actions required by this Order are necessary to reduce the number of individuals who will be exposed to COVID-19, and will thereby slow the spread of COVID-19 in the county. By reducing the spread of COVID-19, this Order will help preserve critical and limited healthcare capacity in the county and will save lives.
24. This Order is issued in accordance with, and incorporates by reference: a) the Declaration of Local Health Emergency issued by the Health Officer on February 14, 2020; b) the Proclamation of Local Emergency issued by the County Director of Emergency Services on February 14, 2020; c) the action of the County Board of Supervisors to ratify and continue both the local health emergency and local emergency on February 19, 2020; d) the Proclamation of a State of Emergency issued by the Governor of the State of California on March 4, 2020; e) Executive Order N-25-20 issued by the Governor of the State of California on March 12, 2020 which orders that “All residents are to heed any orders and guidance of state and local health officials, including but not limited to the imposition of social distancing measures, to control COVID-19”; f) Proclamation 9984 regarding COVID-19 issued by the President of the United States on March 11, 2020; g) Executive Order N-33-20 issued by the Governor of the State of California on March 19, 2020; h) the “Interim Additional Guidance for Infection Prevention and Control for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 in Nursing Homes” issued by the CDC; i) COVID-19 guidance issued by the California Department of Public Health on including, but not limited to the Face Coverings Guidance issued on April 1, 2020; and j) the State of California’s “Resilience Roadmap.”
25. This Order is issued to prevent circumstances often present in gatherings that may exacerbate the spread of COVID-19, such as: 1) the increased likelihood that gatherings will attract people from a broad geographic area; 2) the prolonged time period in which large numbers of people are in close proximity; 3) the difficulty in tracing exposure when large numbers of people attend a single event or are at a single location; and 4) the inability to ensure that such persons follow adequate hygienic practices.
26. This Order is issued to provide additional protections from the spread of COVID-19 to the public who are taking advantage of opportunities for recreational activities, employees of essential businesses or reopened business and their customers/clients by increasing facial covering

requirements and health checks and temperature screening.

27. This Order comes after the release of substantial guidance from the Health Officer, the California Department of Public Health, the CDC, and other public health officials throughout the United States and around the world.
28. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 120175.5 (b) all governmental entities in the county shall take necessary measures within the governmental entity's control to ensure compliance with this Order and to disseminate this Order to venues or locations within the entity's jurisdiction where gatherings may occur.
29. Violation of this Order is subject to fine, imprisonment, or both. (California Health and Safety Code section 120295.)
30. To the extent necessary, this Order may be enforced by the Sheriff or chiefs of police pursuant to Government Code sections 26602 and 41601 and Health and Safety Code section 101029.
31. Once this Order takes effect it shall supersede the Order of the Health Officer and Emergency Regulations dated April 30, 2020.

**IS SO ORDERED:**

Date: May 7, 2020

  
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Wilma J. Wooten, M.D., M.P.H.  
Public Health Officer  
County of San Diego

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**EMERGENCY REGULATIONS**

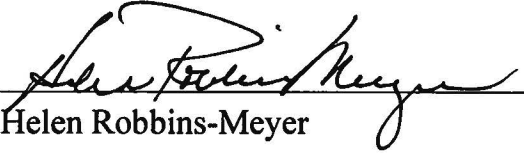
As Director of Emergency Services for the County of San Diego, I am authorized to promulgate regulations for the protection of life and property pursuant to Government Code Section 8634 and San Diego County Code section 31.103. The following shall be in effect for the duration of the Health Officer Order issued above which is incorporated in its entirety by reference:



The Health Officer Order shall be promulgated as a regulation for the protection of life and property.

Any person who violates or who refuses or willfully neglects to obey this regulation is subject to fine, imprisonment, or both. (Government Code section 8665.)

Date: May 7, 2020



Helen Robbins-Meyer  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Director of Emergency Services  
County of San Diego

