

DIRECTIVE AND ORDER FOR ENHANCED CONSUMER AND EMPLOYEE SAFETY
Pursuant for Code of Maryland Regulations, Sec. 10.06.01.06

I, Ernest L. Carter, MD, PhD, Health Officer for Prince George's County, as a designee for Robert R. Neall, Secretary of Health for the State of Maryland, finding it necessary for the control and medical containment of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) and the disease that it causes – Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), hereby direct the following measures to be implemented to ensure public health and safety for large gatherings in Prince George's County, Maryland, as well as consumer and employee safety in all retail and business establishments currently in operation and/or authorized to operate pursuant to emergency orders issued by the State of Maryland and/or Prince George's County, Maryland.

1. This Order clarifies and extends requirements related to wearing a Face Covering inside an indoor retail or business establishment located in Prince George's County, Maryland and provides enforcement mechanisms for these requirements. This Directive and Order supersedes the Directive and Order on large gatherings in Prince George's County that was issued by Dr. Ernest L. Carter, MD, PhD, on July 31, 2020.
2. Retail and business establishments are defined as grocery stores, pharmacies, retail stores, large chain retail establishments (e.g. Home Depot, Walmart), liquor stores, laundromats, restaurants, barber shops, beauty salons, fitness centers, pools, daycare or childcare facilities, entertainment/amusements facilities and any other business establishment.
3. In addition to the Face Covering requirements specified in Council Resolution 64-2020, all persons shall wear a Face Covering when in an indoor retail or business establishment as defined in paragraph number two.
4. All persons shall wear a Face Covering when in a fitness center, which include health clubs, gyms, outdoor aquatic centers, and self-defense schools in Prince George's County, Maryland.
5. Cloth masks/coverings that cover the mouth and nose are acceptable. Medical grade face masks such as N95 Masks should be reserved for healthcare workers or other medical first responders per Centers for Disease Control guidance. Appropriate signage must be displayed for the requirement of a Face Covering to be worn in the retail and business establishment at all times, covering both the nose and mouth.



6. Retail and business establishments must take all steps necessary to ensure that customers comply with this Directive and Order including signs directing people through the stores, signs on entrance doors requiring a Face Covering to be worn and frequent announcement that people must wear a Face Covering.
7. Businesses may also include provisions for customers who cannot wear a Face Covering, such as personal shoppers, curbside delivery and home delivery of items.
8. In addition to the Face Covering exceptions specified in Council Resolution 64-2020, this Directive and Order does not require a person to wear a Face Covering in an indoor retail or business establishment that is operating consistent with all state laws, orders and regulations, county ordinances and orders, and if:
 - a. due to a bona fide disability or medical condition, it would be unsafe for the person to do so;
 - b. to the extent wearing a Face Covering would impede communication by or with persons who have a hearing impairment or other disability, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication;
 - c. if wearing a Face Covering would subject the person to an unsafe working condition, as determined by federal, state, or local occupational safety regulators or workplace safety guidelines;
 - d. to the extent wearing a Face Covering would make it impossible to receive medical services requiring access to the face, mouth, or head, including without limitation, dental or medical care;
 - e. while seated at a table at an establishment and consuming food or beverages;
 - f. while in the water at a swimming pool;
 - g. any person age two (2) years old or younger.
9. Appropriate social distance measures (as previously recommended by the County Health Department and the Centers for Disease Control) for workers, customers and visitors shall be implemented at all retail and business establishments currently in operation. Appropriate signage must be displayed for social distancing, requiring customers to remain 6 feet apart.
10. Retail and business establishments that require employees and/or customers to use shared equipment such as cash registers, shopping carts, baskets, etc., shall provide sanitization



equipment and materials such as wipes, alcohol swabs, etc. for employee and customer use. Shared surfaces and equipment must be cleaned after each use.

11. Retail and business establishments shall adhere to capacity limits set forth in emergency orders and declarations by setting a limitation on the number of clients in the establishment at a given time. Queues shall be established outside of the establishment to promote social distance spacing for customers who are waiting to be permitted entry.
12. Retail and business establishments shall provide employees access to clean and sanitary restrooms stocked with cleaning products, such as soap, sanitizer and paper towels. Employers shall allow employees to wash hands at a minimum of every 30 minutes.
13. Retail and business establishments shall provide all employees who may come into close contact with others with gloves and a cloth Face Covering or surgical masks and instruct employees on safe use. All gloves and Face Coverings shall be procured by the employer.
14. Retail and business establishments shall comply with all state laws, orders and regulations, county ordinances and orders regarding sanitation.
15. The installation of physical barriers (e.g. Plexiglass) between employees and customers is recommended, where possible.
16. Unless specifically otherwise stated in Council Resolution 64-2020, which specifically incorporates Executive Order No. 15-2020 (dated June 25, 2020) social, community, spiritual, religious, recreational, leisure, and sporting gatherings and events ("large gatherings and events") are limited to one person/family unit per 200 square feet, or a maximum of 50 persons - whichever is lower - at all locations and venues, including but not limited to: private residences, parades, festivals, conventions, and fundraisers. Planned larger gatherings and events must be canceled or postponed. CDC and MDH social distancing protocols must be followed.
17. The County will conduct scheduled and unscheduled inspections of retail and business establishments. Any retail and business establishment that does not comply with this Directive and Order will be subject to a fine of \$1,000.
18. Any retail or business establishment that is non-compliant with this Directive and Order during a subsequent inspection will be subject to closure by the County.
19. A person who knowingly and willfully violates this Directive and Order is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding one year or a fine not exceeding \$5000 or both.



20. This Directive and Order will be enforced by the Prince George's County Health Department, with the assistance of additional Prince George's County agencies, including law enforcement as needed.

THIS DIRECTIVE AND ORDER IS ISSUED UNDER MY HAND THIS 4th DAY OF AUGUST 2020, AND IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.



Ernest L. Carter, MD, PhD,
Health Officer, Prince George's County

