Law enforcement agencies across the State of Maryland are being asked what citizens can or cannot do to be in compliance with the recent “Stay-at-Home” Order. To help address these concerns the following information is being provided.

1. The purpose of the “Stay-at-Home” order is two-fold. First, is to address the rapid and easy spread of the COVID-19 virus. This Virus requires a human host in order to be carried to other locations and then spread to others. Secondly, abiding by the “Stay-at-Home” order greatly reduces people from innocently contracting the COVID-19 virus and spreading it to their own family members or others.

2. The Order does not prohibit people from going to the store to get groceries or prescriptions, seeking medical attention at an urgent care facility, getting cleaning or laundry supplies. In addition, the Order does not prevent people from going out to get necessities for pets or other livestock.

3. The Order allows for travel to care for a family member, friend, pets, etc. Citizens are also permitted to travel for transporting family, friends, pets or livestock for essential health and safety activities.

4. The Order also allows for travel to and from an educational institution to receive meals or instructional materials for distance learning.

5. The Order allows for outdoor exercise activities (done in accordance to with social distancing guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and crowd gatherings of 10 people or less. However, such activities may not be done at a park that has been closed by state or local government.

6. Restaurants can be visited if obtaining food for carry-out or drive-thru only.

7. Unlike other states, Maryland does not require documentation to travel about to essential services. While it is not necessary for drivers in Maryland to have documentation about the purpose of travel, having such documentation may help resolve questions. In addition, there is no restriction on travel to work outside of Maryland. However, if extended times is spent out of state, it is recommended the person self-quarantine for 14-days once back in Maryland.

8. Child custody exchanges can also still occur under this Order. Citizens should keep in mind social distancing and the other precautions recommended by Maryland Health Department of Health and the CDC.

9. This Order also does not prohibit construction companies from operating. Employees should exercise social-distancing as much as possible and when safe to do so.

10. **There is NOT a curfew in Maryland. Troopers will not stop vehicles after 2000hrs on 3/30/20, unless the trooper has probable cause that the driver committed a violation of the law. Troopers will use the Executive Order to support filing criminal charges of attendees at large unlawful crowds, especially if already warned.**

11. Enforcement of the Order will be conducted by all Maryland state troopers. However, troopers will not make traffic stops simply to ask drivers where they are going to determine if their travel is essential or not.

12. If, in the course of the regular performance of his duties, such as during a crash investigation or a traffic stop, the trooper develops information indicating the individual was engaged in non-essential travel, enforcement action can be taken, in consultation with the state's attorney's office in that jurisdiction.
13. The Executive Order closes campgrounds, unless the person in an RV actually resides in the RV as their permanent residence. The Order also eliminates non-essential businesses from operating curbside pick-up. They can only conduct delivery orders to the customer’s residence. Restaurants can continue to sell food and drink on a carry-out or drive-thru basis.

14. This Order does allow family members to drive their family member to work.

15. While there are numerous questions regarding what is an essential or non-essential business, there is no one list that has this information. Troopers will refer to the Governor’s Executive Orders and Interpretations (see below). If there is still a question, contact the COVID-19 email address. **DO NOT** provide the COVID email or phone number to the public. This is for public safety only.

16. Attorney letters to designate a business as an essential business are invalid. The designation of an essential business is made by the Department of Homeland Security’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) guidelines and a collaboration of key state agencies. Also bear in mind that the State can have more stringent requirements than that of CISA. **Carwashes, vape shops, and mattress shops are considered non-essential businesses.** If clarification is needed, please contact the Law Enforcement Coordination Center via the below provided email or telephone.

Public safety is encouraged to continue contacting the LE Coordination center 24 hours a day at covid.mdsp@maryland.gov or calling at 410-267-5805. This contact information is **NOT FOR PUBLIC USE.**
ORDER
OF THE
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND
NUMBER 20-03-30-01

AMENDING AND RESTATING THE ORDER OF MARCH 23, 2020, PROHIBITING LARGE GATHERINGS AND EVENTS AND CLOSING SENIOR CENTERS, AND ALL NON-ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES AND OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS, AND ADDITIONALLY REQUIRING ALL PERSONS TO STAY AT HOME

WHEREAS, A state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency was proclaimed on March 5, 2020, and renewed on March 17, 2020, to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the state, and the state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency still exists;

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, is a public health catastrophe and has been confirmed throughout Maryland;

WHEREAS, To reduce the spread of COVID-19, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Maryland Department of Health recommend canceling large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings;

WHEREAS, The currently known and available scientific evidence and best practices support limitations on large gatherings and social distancing to prevent exposures and transmissions, and reduce the threat to especially vulnerable populations, including older individuals and those with chronic health conditions;

WHEREAS, To reduce the threat to human health caused by transmission of the novel coronavirus in Maryland, and to protect and save lives, it is necessary and reasonable that individuals in the state refrain from congregating;

WHEREAS, To protect the public health, welfare, and safety, prevent the transmission of the novel coronavirus, control the spread of COVID-19,
and save lives, it is necessary to control and direct the movement of individuals in Maryland, including those on the public streets;

WHEREAS, it is further necessary to control and direct in Maryland the occupancy and use of buildings and premises, as well as places of amusement and assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Coronavirus Response Team will continue to advise on related public health and emergency management decisions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO TITLE 14 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE, AND IN AN EFFORT TO CONTROL AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 WITHIN THE STATE, DO HEREBY ORDER:

I. The Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland, dated March 12, 2020, entitled “Prohibiting Large Gatherings and Events and Closing Senior Centers,” as amended and restated on March 16, 2020, and further amended and restated on March 19, 2020 by Order Number 20-03-19-01, and further amended and restated on March 23, 2020 by Order Number 20-03-29-01, is further amended and restated in its entirety as set forth herein.

II. Stay-at-Home Order.

a. All persons living in the State of Maryland are hereby ordered, effective as of 8:00 p.m. on March 30, 2020, to stay in their homes or places of residences (“Homes”) except:

   i. to conduct or participate in Essential Activities (defined below);

   ii. staff and owners of businesses and organizations that are not required to close pursuant to paragraph IV or paragraph V below may travel:

      1. between their Homes and those businesses and organizations; and

      2. to and from customers for the purpose of delivering goods or performing services; and

   iii. staff and owners of Non-Essential Businesses (defined below) may travel:

      1. between their Homes and those Non-Essential Businesses for the purpose of engaging in Minimal Operations; and

      2. to and from customers for the purpose of delivering goods.

b. As used herein, “Essential Activities” means:
i. Obtaining necessary supplies or services for one’s self, family, household members, pets, or livestock, including, without limitation: groceries, supplies for household consumption or use, supplies and equipment needed to work from home, laundry, and products needed to maintain safety, sanitation, and essential maintenance of the home or residence;

ii. Engaging in activities essential for the health and safety of one’s self, family, household members, pets, or livestock, including such things as seeking medical or behavior health or emergency services, and obtaining medication or medical supplies;

iii. Caring for a family member, friend, pet, or livestock in another household or location, including, without limitation, transporting a family member, friend, pet, or livestock animal for essential health and safety activities, and to obtain necessary supplies and services;

iv. Traveling to and from an educational institution for purposes of receiving meals or instructional materials for distance learning;

v. Engaging in outdoor exercise activities, such as walking, hiking, running, or biking, but only in compliance with paragraph III below and applicable social distancing guidance published by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and the Maryland Department of Health (“MDH”);

vi. Travel required by a law enforcement officer or court order; or

vii. Traveling to and from a federal, State, or local government building for a necessary purpose.

III. Gatherings Large Than 10 Persons Prohibited.

a. Social, community, spiritual, religious, recreational, leisure, and sporting gatherings and events (“large gatherings and events”) of more than 10 people are hereby prohibited at all locations and venues, including but not limited to parades, festivals, conventions, and fundraisers.

b. Planned large gatherings and events must be canceled or postponed until after termination of the state of emergency and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded.

IV. Closure of Non-Essential Businesses, Generally.

a. This Order controls the occupancy and use of all businesses, organizations, establishments, and facilities that are not part of the critical infrastructure sectors identified by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (currently described at
b. Subject to paragraph IV.c, all Non-Essential Businesses shall remain closed to the general public.

c. Staff and owners may continue to be on-site at Non-Essential Businesses for only the following purposes (“Minimal Operations”):

   i. Facilitating remote working (a/k/a/ telework) by other staff;

   ii. Maintaining essential property;

   iii. Preventing loss of, or damage to property, including without limitation, preventing spoilage of perishable inventory;

   iv. Performing essential administrative functions, including without limitation, picking up mail and processing payroll;

   v. Caring for live animals; and

   vi. In the case of Non-Essential Businesses that are retail establishments, continuing to sell retail products on a delivery basis.

d. All businesses, organizations, establishments, and facilities that are required to close pursuant to paragraph V, pursuant to any other Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland or any other Order of a political subdivision, shall be and remain closed in accordance with paragraph V or such other Order, as the case may be.

V. Closure of Certain Specific Businesses, Organizations, and Facilities.

a. Senior Centers. All senior citizen activities centers (as defined in Section 10-501(i) of the Human Services Article of the Maryland Code) shall remain closed until after termination of the state of emergency and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded.

b. Restaurants and Bars.

   i. This Order controls the occupancy and use of restaurants, bars, and other similar establishments that sell food or beverages for consumption on-premises in Maryland (“Restaurants and Bars”). This Order does not apply to food or beverage services in health care facilities, which are expressly excluded from the definition of “Restaurants and Bars.”

   ii. All Restaurants and Bars shall remain closed to the general public, except that, to the extent permitted by applicable law, and in accordance with any social-distancing recommendations of MDH, food and beverages may be:
1. sold if such food or beverages are promptly taken from the premises, i.e., on a carry-out or drive-through basis; or
2. delivered to customers off the premises.

c. **Fitness Centers.**

   i. This Order controls the occupancy and use of fitness centers, health clubs, health spas, gyms, aquatic centers, and self-defense schools in Maryland ("Fitness Centers").

   ii. All Fitness Centers shall remain closed to the general public, except that the portion of any Fitness Center that is licensed or otherwise permitted by applicable law, regulation, or order to provide child care services may remain open to the general public for the purpose of continuing to provide such child care services.

d. **Theaters.**

   i. This Order controls the occupancy and use of theatres in Maryland at which live performances occur or motion pictures are shown ("Theaters").

   ii. All Theaters shall remain closed to the general public.

e. **Malls.**

   i. This Order controls the occupancy and use of shopping centers in Maryland that have one or more enclosed pedestrian concourses ("Enclosed Malls").

   ii. The following portions of Enclosed Malls shall remain closed to the general public:

   1. pedestrian concourses and other interior common areas open to the general public, including without limitation, food courts; and

   2. retail establishments only accessible to the general public from enclosed pedestrian concourses or other interior areas.

   iii. This paragraph V.e does not require closure of retail establishments attached to Enclosed Malls that are directly accessible from the outside.

   iv. Notwithstanding paragraph V.e.ii, local governments may approve access by the general public to the following parts of Enclosed Malls:

   1. retail establishments (a) that primarily sell groceries or pharmacy products, or (b) at which licensed professionals provide health care services; and
2. pedestrian concourses and other interior common areas, but solely to the extent necessary for the general public to access the retail establishments described in paragraph V.e.iv.1.

f. **Other Recreational Establishments**.

   i. This Order controls the occupancy and use of the following establishments in Maryland (“Recreational Establishments”):

   1. bingo halls;
   2. bowling alleys;
   3. pool halls;
   4. amusement parks;
   5. roller and ice skating rinks;
   6. all golf courses (public and private), miniature golf establishments, and driving ranges;
   7. social and fraternal clubs, including without limitation, American Legion posts, VFW posts, and Elks Clubs;
   8. campgrounds; and
   9. any other establishment not listed above that is subject to the admission and amusement tax under Title 4 of the Tax-General Article of the Maryland Code.

   ii. All Recreational Establishments are hereby closed to the general public (including members, in the case of private clubs), effective as of 5:00 p.m. on March 30, 2020 (or shall remain closed, if closed by a prior Order).

   g. **Other Miscellaneous Establishments**.

   i. This Order controls the occupancy and use of the following establishments in Maryland:

   1. tattoo parlors;
   2. tanning salons;
   3. barber shops; and
   4. beauty salons and all other establishments that provide esthetic services, provide hair services, or provide nail services (as described in Title 5, Subtitle 2 of the Business Occupations Article of the Maryland Code).

   ii. The establishments listed in paragraph V.g.i above shall remain closed to the general public.

VI. **Specific Exclusions.** For avoidance of doubt:

a. This Order does not require the closure of, or prohibit the movement of any staff or volunteer traveling to, from, or in connection with their duties at any:
i. Any federal, State, or local government unit, building, or facility;
ii. Any newspaper, television, radio, or other media service; or
iii. Any non-profit organization or facility providing essential services to low-income persons, including, without limitation, homeless shelters, food banks, and soup kitchens.

b. Paragraph II of this Order does not apply to:

i. Persons whose homes or residences have become unsafe, such as victims of domestic violence; and

ii. Persons who are experiencing homelessness, but governmental and other entities are strongly encouraged to make shelter available for such persons to the maximum extent practicable, in a manner consistent with the social distancing guidelines of the CDC and MDH.

VII. Government Buildings and Facilities with Large Occupancy or Attendance.

a. State and local government buildings and facilities with an expected occupancy or attendance of more than 10 people shall:

i. Promptly and conspicuously post in the building or facility a copy of the MDH recommendations for social distancing; and

ii. Provide all occupants and attendees with the capability to wash their hands.

b. A copy of this Order shall be made available to all occupants or attendees at any State or local government building and facility with an expected occupancy or attendance of more than 10 people.

VIII. General Provisions.

a. Each law enforcement officer of the State or a political subdivision shall execute and enforce this Order.

b. A person who knowingly and willfully violates this Order is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding one year or a fine not exceeding $5,000 or both.

c. This Order remains effective until after termination of the state of emergency and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded, or until rescinded, superseded, amended, or revised by additional orders.

d. The effect of any statute, rule, or regulation of an agency of the State or a political subdivision inconsistent with this order is hereby suspended.

e. The underlined paragraph headings in this Order are for convenience of reference
only and shall not affect the interpretation of this Order.

ISSUED UNDER MY HAND THIS 30TH DAY OF MARCH, 2020, AND EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor
INTERPRETIVE GUIDANCE

Number: COVID19-07  
Date: March 30, 2020  
Re: Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland, Number 20-03-30-01, dated March 30, 2020, Amending and Restating the Order of March 23, 2020, Prohibiting Large Gatherings and Events and Closing Senior Centers, and All Non-Essential Businesses and Other Establishments, Additionally Requiring All Persons to Stay at Home

At this time, the Office of Legal Counsel (“OLC”) recommends that the Administration interpret the above-referenced Order as follows:

1. **Curbside Pickup at Non-Essential Businesses Not Permitted.** Under this Order, because residents of Maryland are not permitted to leave their homes to purchase products from Non-Essential Businesses, curbside pickup at Non-Essential Businesses is no longer permitted. Non-Essential Businesses may continue to sell products on a delivery basis, provided that this can be accomplished in a manner consistent with all applicable guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”), the Maryland Department of Health (“MDH”), and the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (“OSHA”) regarding social-distancing and environmental cleaning and disinfection.

   Please note that restaurants may continue selling food and drink on a carry-out or drive-through basis, as permitted by paragraph V.b.2 of the Order.

2. **Campgrounds.** Please note campgrounds are now required to close under that paragraph V.f.i.8 of Order No. 20-03-30-01. There is one exception to this requirement: Persons residing in recreational vehicles (“RVs”) at campgrounds who genuinely have no other viable place of residence may remain in the campground. Such persons should comply with all applicable guidance from the CDC and MDH regarding social distancing.

3. **Effect on Prior Interpretive Guidance.** To the extent prior Interpretive Guidance issued by OLC is inconsistent with Order No. 20-03-30-01 or this Interpretive Guidance COVID19-07, it is rescinded and superseded, including without limitation:
   
   b. Paragraph 1.f of Interpretive Guidance COVID19-06.
   c. The reference to “curbside pickup” in paragraph 3 of Interpretive Guidance COVID19-05.

This Interpretive Guidance may be revised or rescinded at any time. Citizens are urged to consult with their own legal counsel for advice about the application of the Order and this Interpretive Guidance to their particular facts and circumstances.
INTERPRETIVE GUIDANCE

Number: COVID19-08
Date: March 30, 2020
Re: Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland, Number 20-03-30-01, dated March 30, 2020, Amending and Restating the Order of March 23, 2020, Prohibiting Large Gatherings and Events and Closing Senior Centers, and All Non-Essential Businesses and Other Establishments, Additionally Requiring All Persons to Stay at Home

At this time, the Office of Legal Counsel (“OLC”) recommends that the Administration interpret the above-referenced Order as follows:

1. **Employer Documentation.** Employers who are permitted to remain open (to any degree) under the Order **may** wish to provide a letter to employees who must commute to and from work. This will help employees establish their need to travel if challenged. The suggested content for the letter is:
   a. the name and address of the employee;
   b. the name and address of the employer;
   c. the nature of the employee’s work;
   d. a brief statement of why the employer remains open for business; and
   e. a signature and contact information for the employer.

2. **Commuters To/From Adjacent States, and Persons Transiting Maryland.** In connection with the announcement of the Order, Governor Hogan stated that persons traveling into Maryland from anywhere outside Maryland are required to self-quarantine for 14 days. This is **not** expected of:
   a. persons who regularly commute into Maryland from an adjacent state or the District of Columbia, or vice-versa, unless such persons should otherwise self-quarantine under applicable CDC or MDH guidance (for example, because of recent travel to the New York/Tri-State area); and
   b. persons transiting through Maryland who have only minimal contact with Maryland, i.e., only stopping for fuel, food, or other necessary supplies, not making contact with anyone for more than three minutes at a distance of less than six feet.

3. **Curbside Pickup at Restaurants.** Under this Order, Restaurants and Bars are not classified as Non-Essential Businesses. Therefore, the prohibition on curbside pickup described in OLC Interpretive Guidance document COVID19-07 does **not** apply to Restaurants and Bars.

4. **Recreational Boating.** Recreational boating is not considered an “outdoor exercise activity” for purposes of paragraph II.b.v of the Order.

5. **Diplomatic Employees.** Foreign diplomatic facilities, including without limitation, consulates and embassies, are considered government facilities that are part of the federal critical infrastructure sectors. The Order does **not** prohibit staff from traveling between their Homes and those facilities, or as needed for performance of their official duties.

*This Interpretive Guidance maybe revised or rescinded at any time. Citizens are urged to consult with their own legal counsel for advice about the application of the Order and this Interpretive Guidance to their particular facts and circumstances.*
6. **Clergy.** Churches, synagogues, mosques, and other similar religious facilities are considered “Non-Essential Businesses” under the Order. Clergy and other staff of those religious facilities are permitted to continue conducting Minimal Operations under paragraph IV.c of the Order, provided that they comply with all applicable guidance from the CDC and MDH regarding social distancing. In the case of religious facilities, the term “Minimal Operations” includes, but is not necessarily limited to, facilitating remote worship.

7. **Persons Providing In-Home Child, Elder, and Similar Care.** Providing care for children, senior citizens, or persons having special needs at the Home of the children, senior citizens, or persons having special needs, as the case may be, is considered an Essential Activity under paragraph II.b.iii of the Order.

8. **Prior Interpretive Guidance.** Except as rescinded and superseded by paragraph 3 of OLC Interpretive Guidance document COVID19-07, the provisions of OLC Interpretive Guidance documents COVID19-04, COVID19-05, and COVID19-06 remain in effect and are applicable to the above-referenced Order.