

JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER 20-004

Jefferson County Public Health (JCPH) is working to stop the spread of coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). To support this effort, in conjunction with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), I find it necessary to issue JCPH Order 20-004, which adopts the State of Colorado's Safer-At-Home Order and imposes additional restrictions in Jefferson County, Colorado in an effort to protect and preserve the public health.

FINDINGS

COVID-19 was first detected in Wuhan, China in late 2019, and since then has spread to over 60 countries, including the United States. As of May 5, 2020, there are 17,364 known positive cases of COVID-19 state-wide in Colorado, and 1,591 known positive cases in Jefferson County, Colorado, as well as 903 known deaths related to COVID-19 state-wide and 88 known deaths in Jefferson County.

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness transmitted like other respiratory illness through person-to-person contact or by contact with surfaces contaminated with the virus. Persons infected with COVID-19 may become symptomatic anywhere from two to fourteen days after exposure. Symptoms include fever, cough or shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. Individuals with serious chronic health conditions and older adults are most at risk for becoming very ill with this disease.

On March 10, 2020, the Governor of Colorado declared a State of Emergency relating to the presence of COVID-19.

On March 13, 2020, the Chairman of the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners declared a COVID-19 Local Disaster Emergency, which was extended by the full

Board of County Commissioners (BCC) through Resolution CC20-055 on March 16, 2020, until April 16, 2020. On April 24, 2020, the Jefferson County BCC approved Resolution CC20-073, which extended Jefferson County's COVID-19 Local Disaster Emergency through May 26, 2020, unless sooner amended, extended, or rescinded by the Board.

On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency due to COVID-19.

On March 18, 2020, I issued JCPH Order 20-001 closing bars, restaurants, theatres, casinos, and public buildings in Jefferson County, subject to certain limited exceptions. On April 8, 2020, I issued the First Extension of JCPH Order 20-001, under which JCPH Order 20-001 expired at midnight on April 26, 2020, unless further extended. On April 24, I issued a Second Extension of JCPH Order 20-001, which is currently set to expire at midnight on May 8, 2020.

Since the local extension of the Stay-At-Home order began on April 27, 2020, access to COVID-19 testing and personal protective equipment (PPE) has improved, with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) providing additional testing and PPE to local providers and test sites. Before May 9, 2020, JCPH will also have a plan in partnership with the Colorado Volunteer Mobilizer — a network of health and medical volunteers — so we can train and rapidly expand capacity for COVID-19 disease tracking and contact tracing. With this progress, we feel it is appropriate to lessen some of the current stay at home restrictions.

ORDER

The requirements of this Order are effective beginning 12:01 a.m. on May 9, 2020. This Order supersedes and replaces JCPH Order 20-001. JCPH Order 20-003 remains in full force and effect.¹

1. **Safer-At-Home.** All persons and businesses in Colorado, including those in Jefferson County, Colorado, are subject to the requirements of Colorado's Safer-At-Home Orders, which include Governor Polis' Executive Order D 2020 044, Safer at Home, issued on April 26, 2020, and CDPHE's Public Health Order 20-28, as amended on May 4, 2020. JCPH has elected not to issue its own Safer-At-Home Order and instead defers to Colorado's Safer-At-Home Orders.

2. **County Owned or Operated Buildings.** All County-owned or operated public buildings are to remain closed to ingress, egress, use and occupancy by members of the public and County employees without prior supervisor approval until May 31, 2020, with the following limited exceptions:

- a. County buildings utilized for law enforcement or public health purposes;
- b. Authorized vendors as approved by the County Manager or his designee;
- c. State courts in the First Judicial District located at 100 Jefferson County Parkway, Golden, Colorado, whose operations are directed by the Chief Judge of the First Judicial District;
- d. County buildings leased by any State entity, whose operations are directed by the Governor of Colorado and his appointees;
- e. The Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport;
- f. Jefferson County Open Space Parks, including restrooms, will remain open (subject to muddy trail and wildlife closures). The Lookout Mountain Nature Center and Hiwan Museum are closed for the duration of this Order; and

¹ JCPH Order 20-002 was rescinded on March 26, 2020, after Governor Polis issued Colorado's Stay-At-Home Order.

- g. Public libraries in Jefferson County remain closed to the public but may operate with curbside delivery under a plan pre-approved by JCPH.

3. **Masks and Face Coverings.** Based on the available medical research, JCPH strongly urges all persons in Jefferson County to wear non-medical face coverings when interacting with people outside of your immediate household. All workers are required to wear non-medical face coverings as provided in Governor Polis' Executive Order D 2020 039 and CDPHE Public Health Order 20-28 at p.16. JCPH supports any business that elects to require its customers to wear non-medical face coverings.

Along with CDPHE, JCPH is tasked with protecting the health and welfare of the citizens of Jefferson County by investigating and controlling cases of epidemic and communicable disease. This Order is necessary to control any potential transmission of disease to others. Immediate issuance of this Order is necessary for the preservation of public health, safety, or welfare. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to be less restrictive than any state order.

JCPH Order 20-004 shall be in effect from May 9, 2020, at 12:01 a.m., and continuing until 11:59pm on Tuesday, May 26, 2020, unless earlier amended, extended, or rescinded by the Director of JCPH.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER IS SUBJECT TO PENALTIES CONTAINED IN C.R.S. § 25-1-114.1 and 25-1-516, INCLUDING A FINE OF UP TO ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND IMPRISONMENT IN THE COUNTY JAIL FOR UP TO ONE YEAR.



Mark B. Johnson, MD, MPH
Executive Director
Jefferson County Public Health

May 7, 2020
Date