April 29, 2020

Understanding Governor Sisolak’s latest directive extending previous directives and making certain changes

Since the start of the COVID-19 crisis, Governor Sisolak has issued a series of orders intended to reduce interactions, minimize the risk of infection, and slow the rate of spread by limiting opportunities for interpersonal contact. This Directive extends the deadlines for many previous directives and loosens restrictions on certain activities. Below is some general guidance on what this new directive means and how it applies to you.

What is new in this directive?: The new Directive is the first step in the Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery plan before the State officially enters Phase 1. It loosens some restrictions that were previously in place:

- All retail businesses previously identified as non-essential will be allowed to operate under curbside commerce models, similar to curbside pickup currently allowed for restaurants and eateries
  - This now includes curbside sales for retail cannabis dispensaries
- Golf, tennis, and pickleball activities may resume as long as they are they comply with social distancing, sanitation, and other requirements intended to prevent the spread of COVID-19
- Drive-up religious services are now permitted, as long as congregants stay in a vehicle and maintain at least 6 feet of social distance from people not in their household

Does this end the Stay at Home order?: No. This Directive extends the Stay at Home orders from previous directives to May 15, 2020, meaning Nevadans should stay at home except for necessary outings like going to work as an essential employee, buying groceries, picking up food or retail items from curbside pickup, or attending medical appointments.

Nevadans who wish to enjoy the great outdoors can still do so, including walking in your neighborhood or in a nearby park. Individuals should practice good social
distancing of at least 6 feet from other members of the public and avoid touching any outdoor equipment (like playground equipment) where the virus may be lurking. Congregating outdoors without maintaining safe social distancing is not permitted. We strongly encourage Nevadans to wear masks in public whenever possible.

**What about gatherings?:** The ban on gatherings of 10 more people in any indoor or outdoor public area still stands.

**What does this mean for my leisure activities?:** It means that some publicly accessible sporting and recreational venues and activities—golf, tennis, and pickleball—that were paused by Directive 013 can reopen as long as they adhere to all of the guidelines and conditions outlined by the previous directives, starting with Directive 003 issued on March 20, 2020 and ending with today’s Directive 016, which loosens some of the restriction. All other activities referenced in Directive 013 are still prohibited for now.

**It says publicly accessible above; can private golf and tennis clubs reopen?:** Yes, as long as they follow the public health guidelines, they can absolutely reopen. However, clubhouses, bars, and amenities, like gyms, must remain closed.

**What are some examples of best practices?:** While golfing, don’t share a golf cart with people outside your household. Be mindful of and try to avoid exposure to shared equipment or hard surfaces like flagsticks, bunker rakes, scorecards, etc. Specific guidance for golf courses can be found [HERE](#).

**What if I would like to attend a faith based service?:** During challenging times many people have relied on their faith. Places of worship have been encouraged to hold services via alternative means, like videos, streaming, or broadcast. The people that are performing these services should, of course, do so in a manner that they are practicing social distancing and are encouraged to wear facial coverings. Remember, the best thing we can do right now is to Stay Home for Nevada. Because we are trying to get everyone to stay home, and we have prohibited all gatherings over ten people, this is not yet the time to get people together to celebrate their faith. Nobody should be physically attending in-person, indoor worship services with ten or more people. However, drive-in services are now permitted, as long as congregants stay in a vehicle and maintain at least 6 feet of social distance from people not in their household.

**What does this mean for certain businesses?:** It means non-essential retailers that could not operate at all under previous directives can open for curbside, as well as home delivery services. Non-essential retailers must comply with Nevada State Occupational Safety and Health Administration (NV OSHA) measures to protect employees and customers. Retailers also need to comply with social distancing guidance from the [CDC](#), the Governor’s Office, and any applicable Nevada state regulatory agency or board. For
a reminder of which businesses are considered non-essential, please see guidance [HERE](#), and for more information on how to safely operate curbside services, refer to this [GUIDANCE](#).

Additionally, retail cannabis dispensaries can now offer curbside sales, in addition to delivery services previously allowed under [Directive 003](#). Licensed cannabis retailers must continue to comply with all social distancing guidance from previous directives and NV OSHA guidance for protecting employees and customers. These retailers should also comply with any related guidance from the Cannabis Compliance Board.

Gaming operations are still closed until further notice.

**Are smoke shops, breweries, and wine, beer, and liquor stores open?** Yes; non-essential retailers licensed to sell tobacco or alcohol on a take-away basis are now allowed to open for curbside or home delivery services only. Those retailers must comply with NV OSHA standards, local laws and regulations, and applicable licensing provisions.

**Can I buy a new car, refrigerator, or couch?** This Directive extends the closure of showrooms to May 15, 2020. Those businesses have all been deemed essential, so all of the items that they sell can still be purchased. However, you'll have to use different forms of purchase, like shipping, curbside pickup, or home delivery.

**I’m thinking about buying a new house. Can I see it?** Yes…but you’ll have to look at pictures, take a virtual tour, and handle all of the paperwork (whenever possible) without seeing anyone in person. For now, “Open Houses” and in-person showings of single and multi-family homes that are occupied by renters are prohibited. You may still arrange to view an unoccupied house on an appointment basis.

**Can I call my barber or stylist to come over?** No, not while this directive is in place. Not only does it put you both at risk of spreading the disease to one another and those that you’re staying at home with, it could also cost them their license!

**What else does this directive do?** [Directive 016](#) also extends other items covered in previous directives, like the changes to public meetings, and extension of legal deadlines and professional licensing requirements.

Additionally, for any drivers’ license or other card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles that expires during the time that the DMV is closed to the public, the expiration date is extended for 90 days after the day the DMV offices reopen to the public.

**If I’m providing an essential good or service, what should I do?** Directives affecting essential businesses ([Directive 003](#) and [Directive 013](#)) haven’t changed, except that
those directives are now extended through May 15, 2020. Essential businesses that are still providing goods or services need to make sure that foot traffic is kept to a minimum and ensure that social distancing standards are maintained. When going to these places, people need to be spaced out and as far away from each other as possible, especially when a line is forming. Those engaging in curbside commerce should review the Curbside Commerce Safety Protocols.

I’ve heard of essential businesses remaining open that aren’t protecting their employees. What are we doing to protect those brave Nevadans? The Nevada Occupational Safety and Health Administration, or OSHA for short, is ensuring that all open businesses are keeping their employees safe, adhering to proper social distancing, and keeping their workplaces clean. Call NV OSHA if you’d like to alert them of any unsafe conditions.

Please note, additional guidance on all of Governor Sisolak’s emergency directives can be found HERE.