

**St. Louis County Department of Public Health
2019 Novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”)
Amended Quarantine and Isolation Order**

I. Background

The St. Louis County Department of Public Health (“DPH”) has been closely monitoring an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by COVID-19. Infections with COVID-19 have been reported around the world. The first confirmed instance of person-to-person spread of the virus in the United States was reported on January 30, 2020. The first confirmed instance of COVID-19 in St. Louis County was reported on March 7, 2020.

State law provides that the “local health authority . . . shall require isolation of a patient . . . with a communicable disease, quarantine of contacts, concurrent and terminal disinfection, or modified forms of these procedures necessary for the protection of the public health.” 19 CSR 20-20.050(1). It further provides that “[n]o person . . . infected with or suspected of having a communicable disease . . . or any contact of a disease subject to quarantine or isolation shall move or be moved from one (1) health jurisdiction to another, unless necessary for medical care, without notice to and consent from the local health authority” 19 CSR 20-20.050(2).

COVID-19 is considered an infectious, contagious, communicable, and dangerous disease for purposes of §§ 192.020-1, 192.139, & 193.300, RSMo., 19 CSR 20-20.020, and other state and local laws. The DPH’s director is the “local health authority” under 19 CSR 20-20.050(1) pursuant to 19 CSR 20-20.010(24), Section 4.130 of the Charter, and Section 600.010 SLCRO, and has been delegated the authority to act on St. Louis County’s behalf for the public health purposes described in § 193.300, RSMo.

On March 13, 2020, County Executive Sam Page issued an executive order declaring a state of emergency in St. Louis County. The executive order further extends the authority of DPH’s director. Paragraph 9 of the executive order provides that DPH’s director may promulgate such mandatory or advisory policies “as is necessary and appropriate to implement this Executive Order. Mandatory . . . policies so promulgated shall have the force of law to the greatest extent permitted by federal, state, and county law.”

Violating a public health order designed to “prevent the entrance of infectious, contagious, communicable or dangerous diseases” into St. Louis County is punishable as a misdemeanor pursuant to § 192.300, RSMo. Further, “[a]ny person . . . who shall leave any . . . quarantined house or place without the consent of the health officer having jurisdiction, or who evades or breaks quarantine or knowingly conceals a case of contagious, infectious, or communicable disease, or who removes, destroys, obstructs from view, or tears down any quarantine card, cloth or notice by the attending physician or by the health officer, or by direction of the proper health officer, shall be deemed guilty of a class A misdemeanor” pursuant to § 192.320, RSMo.

II. Purpose

The intent of this order is to assure isolation and quarantine of identified person who have COVID-19 or have been exposed to COVID-19. Isolation and quarantine are important components of a multi-layered strategy to prevent, limit, and contain the spread of COVID-19 in St. Louis County. St. Louis County and its employees, contractors, and agents shall treat every person who is isolated or quarantined with compassion, respect, and dignity.

III. Policies

A. Self-Observation

1. To ensure early detection of COVID-19 symptoms, every person in St. Louis County should engage in self-observation regularly and consistently.
2. If, at any time, a person develops a fever or a cough or if they have difficulty breathing, the person shall self-isolate, limit contact with others, and seek advice from a healthcare provider or DPH to determine whether medical evaluation is necessary.

B. Quarantine

1. Quarantined Persons

- i. Every person who knows they have been exposed to COVID-19 shall inform the DPH at the earliest available opportunity. Every such person shall be quarantined either voluntarily or pursuant to a public health order and must engage in monitoring of their own condition as may be directed by DPH.
- ii. The following persons should have a reasonable belief that they may have been exposed to COVID-19:
 - a) a Contact;
 - b) a member of the same household as a Positive Person;
 - c) a person who has been in physical contact with a Person Under Investigation until the individual tests negative; or
 - d) a person who has traveled to or from an area of sustained community transmission, foreign or domestic, as may be identified by the CDC, DHSS, or DPH.
- iii. Before seeking care at a hospital or healthcare facility every quarantined person or their designee shall notify the healthcare facility of their intention to seek care to provide the hospital the opportunity to prepare the capability to manage the assessment and treatment of the quarantined

- person (including, *e.g.*, normal airborne-infection isolation rooms)
2. Recommended Practices During Quarantine: DPH strongly recommends, but does not require, that any quarantined person:
 - i. Separate their living quarters and bathroom facilities from other people and secure it against unauthorized access.
 - ii. Not come within six (6) feet of another person.
 - iii. Have food and other necessities delivered to their living quarters.
 3. Length of Quarantine: The length of quarantine, which may be modified by DPH at any time, shall be based on the method of potential exposure as follows.
 - i. Quarantined persons who could have been exposed to COVID-19 by traveling to areas of sustained community transmission shall be quarantined for at least fourteen days after returning home from travel or until cleared by DPH.
 - ii. Quarantined persons who could have been exposed to COVID-19 by coming within six feet of a Person Under Investigation shall be quarantined until cleared by DPH.
 - iii. Quarantined persons who could have been exposed to COVID-19 by coming within six feet of a Positive Person shall be quarantined for fourteen days starting at the time of last exposure to the Positive Person or until cleared by DPH.
 - iv. Outside Activities during Quarantine: A quarantined person may walk outside of their dwelling on their own property or leasehold but shall not come within six feet of other people. Persons living in a multiple dwelling shall not utilize common facilities or common stairways or elevators to access the outside to the extent possible. These individuals must refrain from walking outside of their own property or leasehold.

C. Isolation

1. Isolated Persons
 - i. Every Positive Person shall be isolated pursuant to a public health order.
 - ii. Every Person Under Investigation shall be isolated pursuant to a public health order, until the person is cleared from isolation by DPH.
 - iii. Before seeking care at a hospital or healthcare facility every isolated person or their designee shall notify the healthcare facility of their

intention to seek care to provide the hospital the opportunity to prepare the capability to manage the assessment and treatment of the isolated person (including, *e.g.*, normal airborne-infection isolation rooms)

2. Recommended Practices During Isolation: DPH strongly recommends, but does not require, that any isolated person:
 - i. Separate their living quarters and bathroom facilities from other people and secure it against unauthorized access.
 - ii. Not come within six (6) feet of another person.
 - iii. Have food and other necessities delivered to their living quarters.
3. Length of Isolation: Every isolated person shall remain isolated until cleared by DPH.
4. Outside Activities during Isolation: An isolated person may walk outside of their dwelling on their own property or leasehold but shall not come within six feet of other people. Persons living in a multiple dwelling shall not utilize common facilities or common stairways or elevators to access the outside to the extent possible. These individuals must refrain from walking outside of their own property or leasehold.

D. Cooperation with DPH

1. Any person under quarantine or isolation shall cooperate fully with DPH, including responding in a timely manner to communications from DPH regarding the person's health status, the person's present or past location, or any other information necessary for protection of the public health.
2. Every person shall comply with any individual monitoring plan prepared by DPH of which that person is aware.
3. Every person shall cooperate with DPH in the performance of in-person visits at the site of isolation or quarantine, or by other methods as technologically available.

Every quarantined or isolated person shall cooperate with any DPH request to confirm that they are present in their quarantine or isolation location.

DPH reserves the right to make exceptions and amendments to this order based on the public health interest of St. Louis County.

IV. Definitions

For purposes of this policy, these terms, regardless of whether capitalized, are defined as follows:

- A. "CDC" means the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention within the United States Department of Health and Human Services
- B. "Congregate settings" means crowded public places where close contact with others may occur.
- C. "Contact" means a person was either (a) within 6 feet of a Positive Person for a prolonged period of greater than a few minutes; or (b) in physical contact with infectious secretions of a Positive Person (*e.g.*, a person who is coughed on by a Positive Person).
- D. "COVID-19" is a highly infectious respiratory disease caused by a new coronavirus that was identified on February 11, 2020 by the World Health Organization that is causing the 2019 novel coronavirus outbreak, first identified in Wuhan China. The new name of this disease is coronavirus disease 2019, abbreviated as COVID-19. In COVID-19, 'CO' stands for 'corona,' 'VI' for 'virus,' and 'D' for disease.
- E. "COVID-19 symptoms" means subjective or measured fever, cough, or difficulty breathing.
- F. "Designee" means a person selected by a Person Under Investigation or a Positive Person to carry out the notification and reporting responsibilities required by DPH or DHSS.
- G. "DHSS" means the Department of Health and Senior Services of the State of Missouri
- H. "DPH" means the St. Louis County Department of Public Health.
- I. "Isolation" and "isolated" mean the separation of a Positive Person or of a Person Under Investigation from any other person.
- J. "Person Under Investigation" is a person who has clinical features and an epidemiological risk of COVID-19 for whom testing is recommended and/or for whom test results are pending.
- K. "Positive Person" means a person who, at any time, tested positive or presumptive-positive for COVID-19, regardless of whether the person displays COVID-19 symptoms, until release from isolation.
- L. "Public health order" means instruction issued by a DPH director that is denominated orally and in writing as an "Order."
- M. "Quarantine" means the restriction of movement and separation of a person or group of people reasonably believed to have been exposed to COVID-19 but who is not symptomatic from people who have not been exposed to COVID-19.
- N. "Self-observation" means a person remaining alert for COVID-19 symptoms.
- O. "Self-isolate" means a person who has self-observed COVID-19 symptoms separating themselves from others who are asymptomatic while seeking advice from a healthcare

provider or DPH.

V. Effective Date:

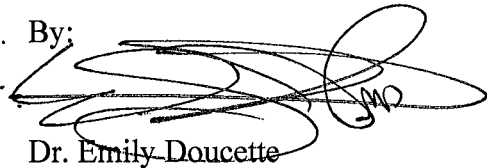
This Amended Order replaces the prior Order dated March 17, 2020. This Amended Order shall be effective at 5 p.m. on March 24, 2020 and will continue to be in effect until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing.

VI. Authorization

This Order by the St. Louis County Department of Public Health establishing restrictions for Quarantine and Isolation for COVID-19 is authorized pursuant to sections 192.006, 192.200 and 192.300 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, 19 CSR 20-20.050 of the Rules of the Department of Health and Senior Services and by the Executive Order declaring a State of Emergency by County Executive Sam Page effective March 13, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., as maybe further amended. The purpose of this order is to enhance the public health and prevent the entrance of infections, contagious, communicable or dangerous diseases into St. Louis County.

So Ordered this 24th day of March 2020.

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "EMD", written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Emily Doucette

Acting Director

Chief Medical Officer

St. Louis County Department of Public Health