

**St. Louis County Department of Public Health  
2019 Novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”)  
Order Restricting the Operations of Restaurants and Bars**

**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. A state of emergency was declared in St. Louis County on March 13, 2020, and several executive orders have been issued since authorizing the director of DPH to issue orders, policies, and other rules to implement those executive orders.

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.

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.

**II. Purpose**

This Order is intended to limit the spread of COVID-19 in St. Louis County to protect the public health by imposing limited and temporary restrictions on the use and operation of restaurants and bars. This Order requires all restaurants and bars to provide all food and beverage service through only delivery service, window service, walk-up service, curbside service, drive-through service, or drive-up service and prohibits in-person dining or drinking on the premises of restaurants and bars.

**III. Policy**

1. The following establishments are closed to ingress, egress, use, and occupancy by members of the public:
  - a. Restaurants, food establishments, food courts, cafes, coffeehouses, and other Places of Public Accommodation offering food or beverage, where food and beverages are normally consumed on-premises; and
  - b. Bars, taverns, brew pubs, breweries, microbreweries, distilleries, wineries, tasting rooms, special licensees, clubs, and other Places of Public Accommodation offering alcoholic beverages, where food and beverages are normally consumed on-premises.

2. Every establishment described in Paragraph 2 above, or its subparagraphs, is encouraged to offer food and beverage service to the public using delivery service, window service, walk-up service, curbside service, drive-through service, or drive-up service, so long as every such person involved implements appropriate precautions to mitigate transmission of COVID-19, including Social Distancing Requirements. Members of the public shall be at least six feet apart from other people while on the premises, to the greatest extent possible.
3. In offering food or beverage service, every establishment described in Paragraph 2, or its subparagraphs, shall prohibit any gathering of 10 people or more at one time in a single space or room (including the employees within the establishment and members of the public) for the purposes of picking up food or beverage orders.
4. Unless otherwise ordered, St. Louis County shall not enforce any provision of an ordinance, permit, or other restriction that would, as applied to the specific circumstances, prohibit an existing restaurant or bar from providing delivery service, window service, curbside service, walk-up service, drive-through service, or drive-up service during the effectiveness of this Order.
5. Paragraph 2 of this Order does not apply to any of the following:
  - a. Establishments that offer food and beverage service that is not for on-premises consumption (*e.g.*, the sale of food or beverages at grocery stores, markets, convenience stores, pharmacies, drug stores, gas stations and food pantries), except that any portion of the premises that is available for on-premises consumption of food or beverage shall comply with Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Order.
  - b. Health care facilities, residential care facilities, congregate care facilities, adult detention facilities and juvenile justice facilities;
  - c. Crisis shelters or similar institutions; and
  - d. Food courts inside the secured zones of St. Louis Lambert International Airport.
6. Nothing in this Order shall prohibit an employee, contractor, vendor, or supplier of an establishment described in Paragraph 2 from entering, exiting, using, or occupying that establishment in their professional capacity.
7. For purposes of this Order, “Social Distancing Requirements” means maintaining at least six-foot social distancing from other individuals, washing hands with soap and water for at least twenty seconds as frequently as possible or using hand sanitizer with more than sixty percent alcohol, covering coughs or sneezes with something other than hands, regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces, and not shaking hands, or as otherwise defined by order.

#### **IV. Effective Date**

This Order shall be effective immediately upon my execution hereof and it shall expire only upon further order.

**V. Authorization**

This Order is authorized pursuant to Executive Orders 10 through 15, which are incorporated herein by reference, and to Missouri and St. Louis County law, including Sections 192.006, 192.200, RSMo., 19 CSR 20-20.050 of the Rules of the Department of Health and Senior Services.

So Ordered this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Dr. Emily Doucette", written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat illegible.

Dr. Emily Doucette

Acting Director

Chief Medical Officer

St. Louis County Department of Public Health