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IMPORTANT CLIENT UPDATE

GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-59 **(rescinded and replaced EO 2020-42)**

On March 23, 2020, Governor Whitmer issued Executive Order 2020-21, ordering all people in Michigan to stay home and stay safe, and then extended that order, with additional restrictions, through April 30, 2020, in Executive Order 2020-42.

The Governor has again extended her stay at home order with Executive Order 2020-59, which rescinded and replaced Executive Order 2020-42, and modified some of the prior restrictions, mainly to allow some businesses to reopen.

The general prohibition against in-person work that is not necessary to protect or sustain life has been extended to May 15, 2020, unless modified earlier.

Changes under this latest Order include:

- Requiring the use of basic cloth masks in public indoor spaces.
- Specifically allowing for more outdoor activities, such as golf and motorboating.
- Allowing Michigan residents to travel between residences in-state.
- Lifting restrictions on certain business activities, such as:
 - Allowing landscapers, lawn-service companies, greenhouses, nurseries, and pest control to return to work, subject to strict social distancing.
 - Permitting retailers that do not sell necessary supplies to reopen for curbside pick-up and for delivery.
 - Lifting the "closed areas" (i.e., paint, garden centers) and advertising restrictions on large stores, and allowing bicycle repair shops to reopen.

The new Order otherwise retains certain restrictions, including:

- A general prohibition on activities that are not essential to public health and life.
- No gatherings of individuals who are not from the same household.

- Closure of dine-in service for restaurants and bars.
- A 10-person limit on attendance at funerals.

This latest Order does not lift the basic restrictions imposed on local governments. Government agencies that remain open for in-person work must adhere to sound social distancing practices and measures, including:

- Developing a COVID-19 preparedness and response plan.
- Restricting the number of workers present on premises to no more than is strictly necessary to perform the in-person work.
- Requiring the use of a face covering (mask, scarf, bandana) by all workers who are able to medically tolerate it when in any enclosed public space. The employer must provide the face covering, or the employee can provide their own.
- Promoting remote work to the fullest extent possible.

Should you have questions concerning this new order, please do not hesitate to contact our Office.

Link to EO 2020-59:

https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499_90705-526894--,00.html

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2019-2020/executiveorder/pdf/2020-EO-59.pdf>

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