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www.monohealth.com/Coronavirus

MONO COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER MODIFIES GUIDANCE FOR OPERATING BARS DURING THE PANDEMIC

June 30, 2020 – On June 29, Mono County Health Officer Dr. Tom Boo issued a modified Order and guidance for operating bars during the pandemic. Coronavirus transmission is now rising statewide and bars are perceived to be high risk environments for infection transmission. On June 28, 2020, Governor Newsom issued an Order closing bars in seven California counties with the highest rates of transmission (see Order under “Directives” tab online at monohealth.com/coronavirus).

The Mono County Order states:

- Alcohol may be served only to seated customers and consumed only by seated customers. Patrons of restaurants with bars may not be served at the bar and must not stand near the bar.
- Customers shall not be seated at bars unless six feet of distancing is maintained between customers, and there is an impermeable barrier (e.g., plexiglass) between customers and staff behind the bar.
- All staff of an establishment serving alcohol must wear face coverings at all times which cover the mouth and nose. Surgical masks or N-95 (or higher) respirators are highly recommended.
- All other components of State and local guidance for all businesses and for the restaurant/bar/winery sector remain in place, without modification.

Mono County Health Officer Dr. Tom Boo stated that, *“Bars are considered high risk environments for Coronavirus transmission as physical distancing is challenging, face coverings are allowed to be removed while seated, and alcohol consumption tends to disinhibit people and impair judgment which may further increase risk. Bars also tend to be loud, making people increase their speaking volume which can expel more virus potentially infecting others.”*

Dr. Boo further commented that *“Around the country and within the state, bars are being closed in recent weeks as Coronavirus cases rapidly rise. Mono County does not currently have bars operating without an associated restaurant, and we want to decrease the risks associated with operating to try to balance keeping businesses open, and the community safe.”*

Staying safe and protecting each other is something we can control. We invite you to join us in this effort and encourage you to showcase your safe practices and support of our local businesses.

Cover. Distance. Wash and #StaySafeToStayOpen

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