ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER

Pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Sections 101040, 120175, and 120175.5(b) the Health Officer of the County of Mariposa orders as follows.

WHEREAS, the Governor of California issued a Stay-at-Home Order on March 18, 2020 in order to limit the spread of a novel coronavirus which causes a disease known as COVID-19, with the intent to limit the spread of disease and to mitigate its impact; and

WHEREAS, the County Health Officer issued a clarifying Health Officer’s Order on April 6, 2020 that limited the use of short-term lodging to essential workers in order to decrease disease transmission; and

WHEREAS, these and other measures have been effective in limiting the spread of disease, and that since the time these measures were first implemented, the State and the County have developed additional capabilities to monitor for and mitigate the impacts of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the State of California on May 5 issued “COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Hotels, Lodging, and Short Term Rentals” providing the County Health Officer with authority to open these sectors based on the local epidemiological data; and

WHEREAS, the County Health Officer wishes to provide guidance to businesses, renters, and property owners in the short-term lodging sector of the County regarding operations under this guidance.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Health Officer of the County of Mariposa issues the following Health Officer’s Order:

1. The previously issued Health Officer’s Order in regards to short term rentals dated April 6, 2020 is rescinded effective June 11, 2020.
2. Businesses, renters, and property owners in the short-term lodging sector shall adhere to the guidance provided in the state guidance entitled “COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Hotels, Lodging, and Short Term Rentals” with the following more stringent measure:
   a. Rooms shall be vacated for a minimum of 24 hours from the time the guest(s) leaves until the time that housekeeping/cleaning commences.
b. While guidance allows cleaning earlier than 24 hours, this requires the use of Personal Protective Equipment, including an N-95 respirator. The use of such equipment requires training, as well as a respiratory protection program, and implementation would likely consume resources that would be needed by healthcare workers.

c. It is recommended that multi-room lodging facilities start with 50% bookings until such time as they can ensure their rooms remain vacant for 24 hours post-vacancy.

d. Violation of this order may result in closure of the offending lodging facility and quarantining of staff due to the concern for unmitigated spread of disease.

This Order shall be effective June 11, 2020 and will remain in effect until further notice. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) may recommend further guidance.

I, as the Health Officer of the County of Mariposa, encourage voluntary compliance with this Health Officer’s Order. However violation of this order is subject to fine, imprisonment or both. (California Health and Safety Code Section 120295.)

If you have any questions or concerns, contact the Public Health Branch at (209) 966-3689.

Eric Sergienko, MD, MPH
Health Officer

Date

6/9/2020