



Tuolumne County Health and Human Services Agency

Rebecca Espino
Director

20075 Cedar Road North
Sonora, CA 95370
(209) 533-5711
(209) 533-5714
www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov

Date: March 13, 2020

To: Organizers of Large Scale Events and Mass Gatherings within Tuolumne County

From: Dr. Eric Sergienko, Tuolumne County Interim Health Officer

Subject: Health Officer's Order to Cancel, Postpone, or Modify Large Scale Events or Mass Gatherings within Tuolumne County

Currently, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has been declared a pandemic by the World Health organization. As of today, there are over 125,000 cases in the world and over 4,000 deaths. In California, there are 198 confirmed cases and four deaths. We can expect that the number of cases to increase significantly should action not being taken to decrease the spread of the disease.

COVID-19 is contained in the droplets that can be sneezed, coughed, or exhaled into the air by infected individuals. There is no currently available treatment. However, transmission of the disease can be done through community mitigation measures that decrease the likelihood of being exposed to the droplets of an infected person. These measures include limiting large scale events and mass gatherings.

The California Department of Public Health, under the direction of State Health Officer Dr. Sonia Angell, has found the following:

- Large gatherings that include 250 people or more should be postponed or canceled.
 - This includes gatherings such as concerts, conferences, and professional, college, and school sporting events.
- Smaller gatherings held in venues that do not allow social distancing of six feet per person should be postponed or canceled.
 - This includes gatherings in crowded auditoriums, rooms or other venues.
- Gatherings of individuals who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should be limited to no more than 10 people.
 - This includes gatherings such as those at retirement facilities, assisted living facilities, developmental homes, and support groups for people with health conditions.
- A "gathering" is any event or convening that brings together people in a single room or single space at the same time, such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, cafeteria, or any other indoor or outdoor space.

To that end, I ask for your cooperation with the following Health Officer's Order:

I, as Health Officer for the County of Tuolumne, as duly authorized under the Health and Safety Code, Section 120175, am requiring that all event organizers in Tuolumne County, comply with the recommendations put forth by the California Department of Public Health.

As per the CDPH recommendations above:

- All events that have more than 250 participants shall be canceled or postponed to such a time as this Health Officer's Order has lapsed
- All events that may have fewer than 250 participants where it is not feasible to maintain social distances of six feet shall be canceled or postponed to such a time as this Health Officer's Order has lapsed
- Gatherings for those who are at high risk of severe illness, such as those older than 60, those with existing heart or lung disease, and those with diabetes, shall not exceed more than ten participants who are at high risk.

This order applies to the time frame as recommended by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), from today's date, March 13, 2020, until March 31, 2020. CDPH may recommend further extensions of their proposed end date.

I, as Health Officer for the County of Tuolumne, encourage voluntary compliance with this Health Officer's Order, but both civil and criminal enforcement actions are permitted under the Health and Safety Code.

I ask that event organizers who wish to discuss this, contact the Public Health Department at (209) 533-7401.



Eric Sergienko, MD, MPH
Health Officer

13 march 2020
Date