



**ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA
SUPERSEDING HEALTH OFFICER ORDER NO. HO-COVID19-08, GENERALLY
REQUIRING MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND WORKERS TO WEAR FACE
COVERINGS**

ORDER NO. HO-COVID19-22

DATE OF ORDER: JULY 5, 2020

Summary and Basis of the Order

This Order requires that all individuals in Contra Costa County (“County”) wear face coverings in accordance with guidance issued by the State of California. This Order is issued in light of the existence in the County, as of July 4, 2020, of 3,564 confirmed cases of infection by the virus that causes Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”), including a significant and increasing number of cases of community transmission. This Order is necessary to slow the rate of spread. This Order supersedes the Order of the Health Officer of the County of Contra Costa issued on April 17, 2020, which imposed a requirement that members of the public and workers wear face coverings in specified situations.

A key transmission method for the virus that causes COVID-19 is respiratory droplets that people expel when they breathe or sneeze. People can be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 and not have any symptoms, meaning they are asymptomatic, but can still be contagious. People can also be infected and contagious 48 hours before developing symptoms, the time when they are pre-symptomatic. Many people who have been infected with the COVID-19 virus have mild symptoms and do not recognize they are infected and contagious, and they can unintentionally infect others. Therefore, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Contra Costa County Health Services Department believe that wearing a face covering, when combined with physical distancing of at least 6 feet and frequent hand washing, may reduce the risk of transmitting the COVID-19 virus when engaged in activities in public when others are nearby.

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040 and 120175, THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA (“HEALTH OFFICER”) ORDERS:



1. **Past Order.** This Order supersedes Health Officer Order No. HO-COVID19-08, which is referred to as the “Face Covering Order” in other orders of the Health Officer. Requirements in other Health Officer orders to comply with the Face Covering Order will be interpreted as requirements to comply with this Order.

2. **Compliance with State Guidance.** All individuals in the County shall comply with the applicable face covering requirements set forth in the June 18, 2020, CDPH Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings (“State Face Covering Guidance”), a copy of which is attached hereto, as may be amended from time to time.

3. **Face Coverings.** The term “face covering” in the State Face Covering Guidance (“Face Covering”) means a covering made of cloth, fabric, or other soft or permeable material, without holes, that covers the nose and mouth, but does not hide or obscure the wearer’s eyes or forehead. The Face Covering should be comfortable, so that the wearer can breathe comfortably through the nose and does not have to adjust it frequently, so as to avoid touching the face. A video showing how to make a Face Covering and additional information about how to wear and clean Face Coverings may be found at the website of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>. Any mask that incorporates a one-way valve (typically a raised plastic cylinder about the size of a quarter on the front or side of the mask) that is designed to facilitate easy exhaling is not a Face Covering and may not be used to comply with this Order. Even when not required by this Order, people are strongly encouraged to wear Face Coverings when in public.

4. **Local Requirements.** Subject to the exemptions set forth in the State Face Covering Guidance, including but not limited to exemptions in industry guidance documents issued by the State of California, individuals and businesses in the County must comply with the following local requirements, as applicable:

a. Individuals shall wear Face Coverings when less than 6 feet away from any person who is not a member of the individual’s household or living unit.

b. Individuals must wear Face Coverings when inside or on the grounds of, or waiting in line to enter, any business.

c. Businesses must take all reasonable steps to prohibit an individual who is not wearing a Face Covering from entering. If those efforts are not successful, the business must not serve that individual, and must seek to remove the individual from the premises.

5. **Incorporation of Emergency Proclamations.** This Order is issued in accordance with, and incorporates by reference, the March 4, 2020, Proclamation of a State of Emergency issued by Governor Gavin Newsom and the March 10, 2020, Proclamation by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors declaring the existence of a local emergency.



6. Enforcement. Pursuant to Government Code sections 26602 and 41601 and Health and Safety Code section 101029, the Health Officer requests that the Sheriff and all chiefs of police in the County ensure compliance with and enforce this Order. The violation of any provision of this Order constitutes an imminent threat and menace to public health, constitutes a public nuisance, and is punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both.

7. Effective Date and Time. This Order shall become effective at 12:01 a.m. on July 6, 2020, and will continue to be in effect until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Health Officer.

8. Copies; Contact Information. Copies of this Order shall promptly be: (1) made available at the Office of the Director of Contra Costa Health Services, 1220 Morello Avenue, Suite 200, Martinez, CA 94553; (2) posted on the Contra Costa Health Services website (<https://www.cchealth.org>); and (3) provided to any member of the public requesting a copy of this Order. Questions or comments regarding this Order may be directed to Contra Costa Health Services at (844) 729-8410.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

July 5, 2020

Chris Farnitano, M.D.
Health Officer of the County of Contra Costa

Attachment:

June 18, 2020, California Department of Public Health Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings

