

Saturday, March 28, 2020

As of the time of this email, Kansas is reporting 261 positive cases and 5 deaths. This is up from 202 positive cases and 4 deaths on Friday.

Even with this new Executive Order THERE IS NO NEED FOR TRAVEL DOCUMENTS.

At 11:00 a.m., Governor Laura Kelly issued Executive Order 20-16, mandating a statewide “Stay at Home” Order. I am attaching a link so you can watch the press conference if you’d like and also attaching a copy of the Executive Order.

The order will begin at 12:01 on Monday, March 30, 2020 and go until Sunday, April 19th, 2020.

Prior to this order, over half of the Kansas population was under various “Stay at Home” orders, but the statewide order is intended to provide uniformity across the state.

The Order mandates Kansans stay at home unless their activity is exempted, such as to get groceries, picking up medications, outdoor exercise, caring for others.

The Governor also reminded that unemployment benefits have been extended to 26 weeks, after legislators approved the measure.

She also reiterated Kansas is not a martial law state and encourages Kansans to do what is right.

While on the 1:00 p.m. conference call with the state, Clay Britton, Governor Kelly’s Chief Counsel, provided some guidance to a series of questions. My best efforts to convey the answers are below:

Any business who is unsure if they fall under the “Essential Function” category is required to email KEFF@ks.gov to seek clarification. There is no role of local authorities to determine if a business meets those requirements.

Are pre-authorizations required for people to go to work for their essential function job? No.

Are indoor gyms allowed to stay open? No, however outdoor exercise is allowed.

Are bowling alleys allowed to remain open? No.

Are bars allowed to stay open? If they are providing carryout / curbside service and conforming with Alcohol Beverage Control Guidance previous sent out.

Restaurants can provide curbside, carryout or delivery service, but no indoor dining.

Can I travel out of state to work? If the job is an essential function, yes.

Are car dealerships allowed to remain open? Yes.

Are liquor stores allowed to remain open? Yes.

Convenience Stores are not required to shut down, but any food service provided (deli, pizza, etc...) will need to be picked up or delivered. Inside dining is not allowed.

Can Pastors continue to work? Yes.

Are churches allowed to open and hold services? Yes, so long as they are able to provide enough space to maintain social distancing (six foot rule).

Are funerals allowed? Yes, as long as they are able to maintain social distancing and not violate "Mass Gatherings."

Executive Order 20-14 is still in place and defines mass gatherings as 10 or more people

Are courthouses required to close? No, nothing in this order requires local governments to remain open or close.

Can't local governments utilize Home Rule to make their own Orders more strict than the Governor's Executive Order? No, under the emergency powers provided to the Governor under the Emergency Preparedness Act, home rule does not supersede the Executive Order.

Is turkey hunting prohibited? No, it would be considered an outdoor exercise so long as social distancing is maintained.

Are out of state hunters allowed to come into Kansas to hunt and stay at our hotels? There is nothing which prohibits that.

Are daycares required to only care for kids of parents whose parents are considered essential? No, they have the ability to choose to do that, but can watch whatever children they choose, so long as they follow the 9 kids per provider rule and guidance previously established.

Below is the daily KDHE Brief.

If you need anything, please give me a shout.

Thanks,

Sheriff David Groves

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