



# County of San Diego

**NICK MACCHIONE, FACHE**  
AGENCY DIRECTOR

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY**  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES  
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**WILMA J. WOOTEN, M.D.**  
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER

## **ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER AND EMERGENCY REGULATIONS (Cruise Ship Disembarkation)**

Pursuant to California Health and Safety Code sections 101040, 120175, and 120175.5 (b) the Health Officer of the County of San Diego (Health Officer) **ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

Effective immediately, and continuing until further notice, the following will be in effect for San Diego County (county):

- 1. No passenger or employee may disembark a cruise ship in San Diego harbor without approval of the Health Officer, or designee, if any person on the cruise ship has tested positive for COVID-19.**
- 2. Any cruise ship that is permitted to dock in San Diego harbor shall notify the Health Officer, or designee, regarding any emergency medical treatment required for a passenger or employee, and shall follow all directives of the Health Officer, or designee.**
3. This Order is issued as a result of the World Health Organization's declaration of a worldwide pandemic of COVID-19 disease, also known as "novel coronavirus."
4. The actions required by this Order are necessary to reduce the number of individuals who will be exposed to COVID-19 in the county, and will thereby slow the spread of COVID-19 in the county. By reducing the spread of COVID-19 in the county, this Order will help preserve critical and limited healthcare capacity in the county, prevent the county healthcare systems from becoming overwhelmed, and will save the lives of residents.
5. This Order is based on numerous cases of COVID-19 on cruise ships that have resulted in severe illness and death. Successful disembarkation of cruise ships with COVID-19 cases, or suspected cases, has required a significant level of coordination between federal, State, and local health officials.
6. This Order is based on the Level 3 Travel Advisory Warning for cruise ship travel from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which states: "the risk of COVID-19 on cruise ships is high." The CDC further states: "Cruise passengers are at increased risk of

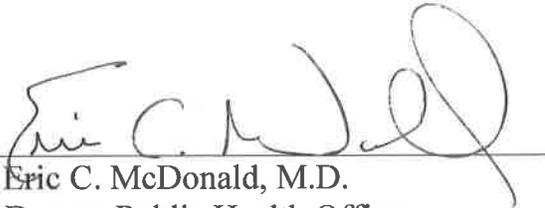
person-to-person spread of infectious diseases, including COVID-19, and outbreaks of COVID-19 have been reported on several cruise ships.” (<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/warning/coronavirus-cruise-ship>)

7. This Order is issued in accordance with, and incorporates by reference: a) the Declaration of Local Health Emergency issued by the Health Officer on February 14, 2020; b) the Proclamation of Local Emergency issued by the County Director of Emergency Services on February 14, 2020; c) the action of the County Board of Supervisors to ratify and continue both the local health emergency and local emergency on February 19, 2020; d) the Proclamation of a State of Emergency issued by the Governor of the State of California on March 4, 2020; e) Executive Order N-25-20 issued by the Governor of the State of California on March 12, 2020 which orders that “All residents are to heed any orders and guidance of state and local health officials, including but not limited to the imposition of social distancing measures, to control COVID-19”; f) Proclamation 9984 regarding COVID-19 issued by the President of the United States on March 11, 2020; and g) Executive Order N-33-20 issued by the Governor of the State of California on March 19, 2020; and the Order of the Health Officer and Emergency Regulations effective March 29, 2020 .
8. This Order is issued based on scientific evidence regarding the most effective approaches to slow the transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically, as well as best practices as currently known and available to protect vulnerable members of the public from avoidable risk of serious illness or death resulting from exposure to COVID-19. The age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population of the county places it at risk for serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19. Although most individuals who contract COVID-19 do not become seriously ill, persons with mild symptoms and asymptomatic persons with COVID-19 may place other vulnerable members of the public—such as older adults, and those with underlying health conditions—at significant risk.
9. This Order comes after the release of substantial guidance from the Health Officer, the California Department of Public Health, the CDC, and other public health officials throughout the United States and around the world.
10. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 120175.5 (b) all governmental entities in the county shall take necessary measures within the governmental entity’s control to ensure compliance with this Order. The San Diego Unified Port District shall provide a copy of this Order to any cruise ship that may be subject to this Order.
11. Violation of this Order is subject to fine, imprisonment, or both. (California Health and Safety Code section 120295.)
12. To the extent necessary, this Order may be enforced by the Sheriff or chiefs of police pursuant to Government Code sections 26602 and 41601 and Health and Safety Code section 101029.

**IS SO ORDERED:**

Wilma J. Wooten, M.D., MPH  
Public Health Officer

Date: March 30, 2020

  
By: Eric C. McDonald, M.D.  
Deputy Public Health Officer  
County of San Diego

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**EMERGENCY REGULATIONS**

As Director of Emergency Services for the County of San Diego, I am authorized to promulgate regulations for the protection of life and property pursuant to Government Code Section 8634 and San Diego County Code section 31.103. The following shall be in effect for the duration of the Health Officer Order issued above which is incorporated in its entirety by reference:

The Health Officer Order shall be promulgated as a regulation for the protection of life and property.

Any person who violates or who refuses or willfully neglects to obey this regulation is subject to fine, imprisonment, or both. (Government Code section 8665.)

Date: March 30, 2020

  
Helen Robbins-Meyer  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Director of Emergency Services  
County of San Diego