

COVID-19 Update From EKA – June 12, 2020

Stay At Home Order Day 85

Today is day 85 of the [statewide "Stay-at-Home" Order](#). 93 days ago, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a Pandemic. Safer at Home orders have been in place in Los Angeles since March 19.

Previous EKA COVID-19 updates

Our previous COVID-19 updates can be found [here](#). Feel free to share our updates with friends and colleagues. We hope you find the information in the EKA updates and the questions they raise to be informative. If you have any COVID-19 government or communications questions, please reach out to any member of the EKA team. If you have a specific COVID-19 question, click [here](#) and we will attempt to answer it in our update.

Insurance Coverage During Civil Unrest

To help business owners understand some of the key insurance issues relating to civil unrest, the [California Department of Insurance](#) has developed a fact sheet to present a general overview of relevant insurance coverages and some important tips. Although the information serves as an overview, insurance policyholders are strongly encouraged to read the terms of the policy purchased, as terms and definitions can vary from one policy to another. Per the [fact sheet](#), standard Business/Commercial Insurance policies typically include coverage for physical loss or damage to the insured premises and other business property resulting from looting, vandalism, and riots. Whether a specific loss will be covered depends on the actual language in the applicable policy and any coverage exclusions that may apply. To view the fact sheet, click [here](#).

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Reopening Today With Restrictions

Los Angeles County is opening up additional businesses today, including zoos, gyms, day camps, swimming pools and more. The Health Department stressed that the reopening of more business sectors should not be seen as an indication the County is out of the woods in terms of the coronavirus pandemic and that residents are required to adhere to the health restrictions when visiting any reopened business, and for the businesses themselves to enforce them. Los Angeles County is in Phase 3 of the [State's Resilience Roadmap](#). Click [here](#) for a detailed list of what is open and closed in L.A. County. To view details on reopening protocols, click [here](#). For more information on how to get tested, click [here](#). Click [here](#) to view the L.A. County Health Officer Order, Reopening Protocols, COVID-19 Surveillance Interactive Dashboard, Roadmap to Recovery, Recovery Dashboard. To view the new 69-page Health Order, click [here](#).

Filming to Resume on June 12

Los Angeles County will allow film and television crews to resume filming on June 12, the same date that California Gov. Gavin Newsom permitted production to resume statewide pending

county approval. This approval does not necessarily mean that filming will immediately resume. While Hollywood's Industry-Wide Safety Committee [released a white paper](#) last week outlining general safety protocols, Hollywood guilds and studios must still reach an agreement on safety protocols pertaining to specific production departments such as cinematography, hair and makeup. Studios will also have to tailor both general and craft-specific guidelines to their particular productions, which could require adjustments depending on the scenes involved. Among the general safety guidelines advised by the industry white paper include regular temperature checks of all cast and crew, isolation of all staff except when needed for essential duties on set, and mandatory safety training for all employees.

Law Enforcement & COVID-19

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl asked for new safety regulations for law enforcement related to COVID-19, saying police and Sheriff's Deputies have failed to follow health mandates and have put protesters at risk consistently. Kuehl called out unsafe law enforcement tactics, including crowding protesters into small areas and failing to wear personal protective gear. The Board directed public health authorities to work with the Sheriff's Department and other local law enforcement agencies, as well as health officers in Pasadena and Long Beach, to issue protocols within 48 hours. The motion also suggested that orders should cover the use of tear gas, which some worry will spread COVID-19 by forcing those within range to cough.

LOS ANGELES

Landlords Sue Over Evictions and Rent Increase Ban

The [Apartment Association of Greater Los Angeles](#) sued the City of Los Angeles, alleging that the COVID-19-related citywide ban on evictions and rent increases violates apartment owners' rights under the U.S. and California constitutions. AAGLA argues that while its members are sympathetic to tenants who have suffered hardship due to the pandemic, the ordinances allow tenants who actually have the ability to pay all or some of their rent to ignore their contractual obligations for the foreseeable future, according to the complaint filed in federal court. The plaintiffs are seeking a court order invalidating the eviction ban and rent freeze. Currently, landlords cannot evict tenants for unpaid rent if they've lost jobs or wages or been otherwise financially affected during the pandemic, according to city rules. Tenants have a year following the expiration of the State of emergency to re-pay their rent. The city also has passed a measure allowing [renters to sue](#) their landlords if they violate anti-eviction regulations. Last month, the city halted rent increases for units protected by the city's [Rent Stabilization Ordinance](#) for a year to help tenants through COVID-19 pandemic.

L.A. City Budget Motions

The various Budget Motions being introduced can be found on the CAO's webpage [here](#). A review of the Motions by the EKA team reveals that most of the CAO recommendations are falling into 2 categories:

- Note and file the request for funding changes because the request puts the budget out of balance.

- Hold the item in committee until the committee "considers redirecting resources from the Police Department to other priorities." This is basically the CAO/Mayor making a value/judgment/policy recommendation on what could be funded if they cut from LAPD. There has not been a public discussion of how they plan on cutting LAPD between \$100 - \$250 million.

Sidewalk Vendors

The Council approved a motion that requests the City Attorney to prepare and present a draft Ordinance to extend the effective period of the reduced Sidewalk and Park Vending Trust Fund permit fee of \$291 until July 1, 2021, or when the city's Safer at Home order is lifted.

LONG BEACH

Safer at Home Order

Starting today, many industries will be allowed to reopen in Long Beach with modifications. Click [here](#) for more information on Long Beach's re-openings.

SafeBiz, Physical Distancing Self-Certification for Businesses

The City of Long Beach [announced](#) the official launching of [SafeBiz](#), a web-interface that allows businesses, which may open according to the "Safer at Home" Health Order to self-certify that they are committed to reopening their business safely. SafeBiz guides business owners through a checklist of safety measures required by the "Safer at Home" order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. For more information, business owners are encouraged to reference the [SafeBiz Form](#).

Temporary Open Streets

To assist Long Beach businesses in the COVID-19 recovery, the City of Long Beach Department of Public Works is looking to streamline temporary repurposing of the sidewalk and roadway for dining, customer queuing, and vehicle loading. Business owners who are interested in the temporary use of the public right-of-way for their businesses, should reference the [Open Streets Toolkit](#) and complete the [Open Streets Form](#). If a business is in a Business Improvement District (BID), they are encouraged to reach out to the business association that manages their BID. For more information on the City's BIDs, click [here](#). Restaurants wishing to modify their parking lot to provide music, outdoor seating, or entertainment are directed to apply for a Special Events – Occasional Event Permit. Application materials are available [here](#).

ORANGE COUNTY

Face Coverings

Dr. Clayton Chau, the HCA's director, was named the County's chief health officer following the abrupt resignation of Dr. Nichole Quick. She had faced intense pressure over her order requiring face coverings to help prevent the spread of coronavirus. One of Dr. Chau's first actions was to modify the mask mandate to make it a "strong recommendation". While defending the mandate, Dr. Chau said he was concerned about outbreaks stemming from the

widespread protests against law enforcement throughout the County. To review Orange County guidance, click [here](#).

CULVER CITY

Additional Relief Through New Public Order

Consistent with the City Council's direction at its June 9, 2020 meeting, the City Manager has issued [a new public order that makes several modifications to the City's Zoning Code](#). The modifications:

- Provide relief from parking requirements for outdoor dining areas;
- Provide reduced parking requirements for new restaurant uses;
- Create an expedited process for establishing outdoor dining and retail areas in private parking lots;
- Allow takeaway alcohol services, consistent with the State Alcoholic Beverage Control's Regulatory Relief efforts; and
- Temporarily pause legal nonconforming use provisions, so if a business' operations are paused during the COVID-19 crisis, any legal nonconforming use status will still be available to them after the crisis has passed.

SACRAMENTO

CCPA Regulations Have Been Submitted

The Attorney General submitted the final proposed regulations package under the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) to the California Office of Administrative Law (OAL). The OAL is responsible for reviewing administrative regulations proposed by state agencies for compliance with the standards set forth in California's Administrative Procedure Act. Once submitted, OAL has 30 working days to conduct a review of the rulemaking record, after which it will either disapprove the rulemaking action or approve and file the proposed regulation with the Secretary of State. The final text of the proposed regulations, along with the accompanying documents submitted to the OAL, can be found [here](#). A selection of explanations behind some of the most notable changes made to the regulations throughout the various drafts is available in the A.G.'s [Final Statement of Reasons](#). The explanations provide greater clarity for businesses finalizing their CCPA compliance efforts. Whether enforcement begins on July 1 or October 1, 2020, businesses that fall within the scope of the CCPA should work now to make sure that they finalize their compliance efforts, as the law has been in effect since January 1, 2020.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Changes

In recent COVID-19 Industry Guidance, the California Department of Public Health removed the requirement that alcoholic beverages be served only in conjunction with meals. As a result, the Department has reviewed its prior Notices of Regulatory Relief and Frequently Asked Questions. The ABC issued an advisory to provide guidance to licensees with regarding operational issues going forward during the COVID-19 crisis. In addition, the Department's prior Relief [No. 14](#) in the Fourth Notice of Regulatory Relief, "Expansion of Licensed Footprint," and various [FAQs](#), were modified to be consistent with the information provided in this Advisory.

- **Exercising On-Sale Privileges on the Licensed Premises:** Licensees that have the privilege to allow alcoholic beverages to be consumed on the licensed premises may now fully exercise those privileges in the same manner as they could prior to the COVID-19 crisis, as soon as local public health authorities authorize on-premises service, and subject to the various guidance from State and local health officials, such as social distancing, occupancy limits, personal protective equipment, etc. This means that the prior restriction that alcoholic beverages be served only in conjunction with bona fide meals has been rescinded.
- Bars (license types 40, 42, and 48) may now serve alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises without the requirement to also provide meals (either prepared themselves or under an agreement with a meal provider pursuant to the [Fifth Notice of Regulatory Relief](#)). This also applies to wineries (Type-02), breweries (Type-01 or Type-23), and distilleries (Type-04 and Type-74; subject to the tasting limitations) that do not operate a bona fide eating place at the premises of production. Bonafide eating places (restaurants; license types 41, 47, and 75) are still required to operate as bona fide eating places in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 23038 (and related provisions of law) in the same manner required of them prior to the COVID-19 crisis. This means that while bona fide meals must be offered and available for service to guests, they are not required as a pre-condition to the service of alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises (however, licensees must comply with any food-related conditions on their license). This applies also to wineries (Type-02), breweries (Type-01 or Type-23), and craft distilleries (Type-74; or Type-04 distilled spirits manufacturers that previously operated a bona fide eating place as a Type-74) that do operate a bona fide eating place at the premises of production.
- **Club Licensees:** Club licensees (license types 50, 51, and 52) may exercise the same pre-COVID-19 crisis privileges of serving alcoholic beverages to members and bona fide guests of members for consumption on the licensed premises. Exercising On-Sale Privileges under a COVID-19 Temporary Catering Authorization Licensees that obtain a COVID-19 Temporary Catering Authorization to operate in an expanded licensed area subject to the Fourth Notice of Regulatory Relief ([No. 14](#)) may now do so in the same manner that they could exercise their license privileges on the permanently licensed premises. This means that such licensees may, within the expanded licensed area, engage in the same conduct as they could on their licensed premises as detailed above.
- **Alcoholic Beverages To-Go:** As explained in the [First Notice of Regulatory Relief](#) (and related [FAQs](#)), under existing law on-sale licensees may exercise off-sale retail privileges with respect to manufacturer pre-packaged containers of beer and wine (or beer only for Type-40 licenses). The Department previously gave Notice that it would not enforce the prohibition against Type-47, Type-48, and Type-75 licensees from also selling off-sale manufacturer pre-packaged containers of distilled spirits, and that Type-74 licensees (craft distillers) may also deliver pre-sealed containers of distilled spirits to

consumers away from their licensed premises (subject to the 2.25 liter per customer per day limit). This relief will continue at this time. Also as explained in the [First Notice of Regulatory Relief](#) (and related [FAQs](#)), under existing law licensees with on-sale privileges are prohibited from selling pre-poured or pre-mixed drinks prepared on the licensed premises for consumption off the licensed premises. As part of its regulatory relief, however, the Department has provided that such pre-poured or pre-mixed drinks may be prepared on the licensed premises for consumption off the licensed premises ("to-go" drinks) only in conjunction with bona fide meals prepared on the licensed premises or under an agreement with a meal provider (as detailed in the [Fifth Notice of Regulatory Relief](#)). This regulatory relief will continue at this time, and the requirement of a meal will remain in effect. In addition, the relief afforded to club licensees (license types 50, 51, and 52) for off-sale and to-go deliveries of alcoholic beverages as detailed in the [Fourth Notice of Regulatory Relief](#) will continue, with the same restriction that such sales may only be to bona fide members of the club (and with respect to to-go sales, only in conjunction with bona fide meals).

Taxes in State Budget

Despite facing a June 15 deadline to pass a state budget, Governor Newsom and legislative leaders are deferring a number of major fiscal decisions until they receive better information on the intention of Congress on state assistance and the actual level of state income tax payments that were deferred for three months. Given those uncertainties, plus the unknown shape of the economic recovery, the question of whether to base the budget on tax increases should also be deferred. The Governor has proposed, and legislative budget writers have included, more than \$4 billion annually in tax increases to support state spending through the 2022-23 budget cycle. Similar to solutions proposed during the Great Recession, lawmakers and the Governor would suspend the ability of medium and large business taxpayers to utilize net operating losses, as well as business incentive tax credits that offset more than \$5 million in tax liability, for 2020, 2021 and 2022. The Legislature will adopt at best an interim budget next week.

Cal/OSHA Provides New Requirements

Last week, the Division of Occupational Safety and Health of California (Cal/OSHA) updated its website, providing new COVID-19 reporting and recordkeeping requirements for California employers. Cal/OSHA's new "[Recording and Reporting Requirements for COVID-19 Cases: Frequently Asked Questions](#)" Cal/OSHA FAQ Guidance places additional obligations on California employers that diverge in parts from the updated requirements imposed under the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) guidance. The following are some of the additional requirements:

- **Presumption that COVID-19 is work-related:** The new Cal/OSHA FAQ Guidance notes that a COVID-19 case is presumed to be work-related if any COVID-19 workplace exposure is identified. This is regardless of other attributable nonworkplace exposure. Specifically, the new Cal/OSHA FAQ Guidance identifies the following factors as reflecting a work-related exposure: The type, extent and duration of contact the employee had at the work environment with other people, particularly the general

public, physical distancing and other controls that impact the likelihood of work-related exposure, whether the employee had work-related contact with anyone who exhibited signs and symptoms of COVID-19

- **Additional recordkeeping requirements:** The new Cal/OSHA FAQ Guidance no longer requires a positive COVID-19 test to trigger an employer's recording and reporting obligations. Rather, the response to FAQ number 2 notes that in part due to the testing shortage, not all persons determined to have COVID-19 have been tested. Thus, it puts the burden on the employer to make the recordability determination even absent a positive COVID-19 test, noting: "the case would still be recordable if it meets any one of the other general recording criteria [(death, days away from work, restricted work or transfer to another job, medical treatment beyond first aid, loss of consciousness, or a significant injury or illness diagnosed by a physician or other licensed healthcare professional)], such as resulting in days away from work. Cal/OSHA recommends erring on the side of recordability."
- **Quarantine days away from work:** The new Cal/OSHA FAQ Guidance notes that the time employees spend in quarantine is not considered "days away from work" for recording purposes, unless "the employee also has a work-related illness that would otherwise require days away from work, time spent in quarantine is not 'days away from work' for recording purposes."
- **Reporting obligations:** The new Cal/OSHA Guidance also devotes a section to reporting COVID-19 cases. It includes information on when employers have to report COVID-19 illnesses, confirming that those obligations are again broader than what is required under OSHA. Under Cal/OSHA, any COVID-19 cases that result in an in-patient hospitalization or the death of an employee (if the illness either occurred in connection with work), must be reported within 8 hours after the employer knows or with diligent inquiry should have known of the serious illness.

Controversial Lease Bill

[Senate Bill 939](#), which we have detailed in previous updates that would alter lease has received significant changes. Originally, the legislation would have given economically hurt tenants significantly more power in rent renegotiations. Small business tenants would have been allowed to renegotiate rent more easily based on how much money they were taking in under the coronavirus limitations. If landlords and renters didn't agree on a new rent amount, then renters could leave without penalty. Only any backed up rent payments from before leaving the lease would have been paid. Changes have been made to the legislation allowing a tenant to leave the lease scot-free if the two sides couldn't agree on a new amount after 30 days was removed. The current 90-day moratorium of commercial evictions after the end date of the State of emergency outlined in SB 939 was also significantly reduced. Terms and circumstances for not paying rent were also reduced for small businesses seeking protection. Overall, the bill was refocused on rent negotiations due to the reduction of business sales, with renters no longer having the ultimate ability to walk out of the lease. The changes were made due to the commercial real estate industry coming out en masse against SB 939, with the provision allowing tenants to leave at any time in particular being a sticking point.

VENTURA COUNTY

Superior Court

As the Ventura County Superior Court prepares to reopen next week, a judge signed an order mandating everyone in the courthouse wear a face mask. Presiding Judge Kent Kellegrew ordered the court closed since March 19 to reduce the amount of foot traffic in the facility as the County works to fight the coronavirus pandemic. Civil and criminal trials have been delayed, and only emergency matters in those types of cases have been heard.

State Monitoring

A sudden rise in COVID-19 hospitalizations means Ventura County is now one of 11 California regions being [monitored by the State](#) for virus containment. Ventura County's three-day average for people hospitalized with COVID-19 rose 38%, according to [California Department of Public Health data](#) updated daily. A contributing factor to the rise is an outbreak at the Ventura Townhouse long-term care facilities in Ventura that emerged last week and has infected at least 27 residents and 11 employees. There is also a possibility of more direct state intervention. If the County has insufficient progress, over 14 days, on containing their disease transmission and hospitalization rates, a county should consider re-instituting sector limitations or more general Stay-at-Home provisions. If the County makes insufficient or no progress, the State Public Health Officer may take action.

LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS

Court denies AFL-CIO request to require COVID-19 rule from OSHA

A federal appeals court denied a petition from the AFL-CIO seeking a court order to force the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to issue an emergency temporary standard on infection control in the workplace. Emergency temporary standards are set if OSHA [determines](#) that workers are in grave danger, due to exposure to toxic substances or agents, according to the agency's website. "In light of the unprecedented nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the regulatory tools that the OSHA has at its disposal to ensure that employers are maintaining hazard-free work environments ...the OSHA reasonably determined that an ETS is not necessary at this time," a three-judge panel wrote in a unanimous decision. "The OSHA's decision not to issue an ETS is entitled to considerable deference," the court wrote. Several business associations, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Federation of Independent Business, backed the DOL in two amicus briefs. To read the two-page ruling, click [here](#).

RETURNING TO WORK/SCHOOL

California Schools

Schools will look different when they reopen according to new statewide guidance. Students should expect to wash their hands and have their temperature taken often. They will likely wear masks and only attend classes a few days a week with a small group of classmates. Signs and taped marks on the floor will tell them which direction to walk and where to stand in

hallways and in the cafeteria. Students also could be spread out across a campus, with classes in auditoriums, cafeterias or outside if necessary. Additional staff will be needed to ensure physical distancing for younger children and students with special needs.

A 55-page guidance document, "Stronger Together: [A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California's Public Schools](#)," released by the California Department of Education offers sweeping recommendations about everything from keeping students and staff safe while at school to the types of instructional models that school districts should consider to maintain social distancing. Ultimately, school district officials will decide how to reopen campuses. The state guidance also places a strong emphasis on how districts will meet the social and emotional needs of students, as well as strongly urging that schools set up a way to assess how well students are doing academically, either through in-person or remote instruction. The document is similar to guidance documents issued by county offices of education over the past week or two, including Imperial County, Los Angeles County, Santa Clara County, and Sacramento County, as well as by the California Department of Public Health. To read the detailed document, click [here](#). Click [here](#) to view the information released by the Los Angeles County Office of Education earlier this week.

NATIONAL

Emergency Authority

The Trump administration issued two executive orders (E.O.s) in the past month seeking to encourage economic development through regulatory reform and relief as the United States navigates the reopening of business and activities throughout the country after the peak of COVID-19. On June 4 2020, the President issued an E.O. on Accelerating the Nation's Economic Recovery from the COVID-19 Emergency by [Expediting Infrastructure Investments and Other Activities](#) directing federal agencies to waive environmental laws to speed up federal approval for new mines, highways, railways, pipelines, and other projects given the current economic "emergency." Specifically, the Infrastructure E.O. calls on the Departments of Transportation, Defense, Interior, and Agriculture, along with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to use all relevant emergency and other authorities to expedite work on, and completion of, all projects that are within their authority to perform or to advance.

The President also issued an E.O. on [Regulatory Relief to Support Economic Recovery](#) in the wake of the lifting of COVID-19 shelter-in-place orders across the country. As we discussed in our prior alert, the Regulatory Relief E.O. directs all federal agencies to identify regulations that may inhibit economic recovery and consider taking measures to temporarily or permanently rescind, modify, or waive those standards, or exempt entities or persons from them, consistent with applicable law, and consider exercising temporary enforcement discretion.

Senators Ask For Halted Regs To Be Phased Out

A group of Republican senators have written the Office of Management and Budget to suggest the phasing out of all federal regulations which have been waived because of the pandemic. The group said the rules should go through a regulatory review process to determine whether they should be modified, repealed, or maintained. To view the letter, click [here](#).

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The CDC created a communication toolkit to help public health professionals, health departments, community organizations, and healthcare systems and providers reach populations who may need COVID-19 prevention messaging in their native languages. To view the social media toolkit, click [here](#).

Other CDC Resources:

- [Using Telehealth to Expand Access to Essential Health Services during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Running Essential Errands](#)
- [Suggestions for Youth and Summer Camps](#)
- [Testing for COVID-19](#)
- [If You Have Pets](#)

QUESTIONS EKA HAS RECEIVED

Did the Federal Reserve Revise The Main Street Loan Term Sheets?

On June 8, 2020, the Fed announced additional changes to the Main Street Program terms, aimed at allowing more small and medium-sized businesses to be able to receive support. The Main Street Program was established to purchase up to \$600 billion in loans from eligible lenders using funds appropriated to the Fed under the CARES Act to support lending to small and medium-sized businesses impacted by COVID-19. The key changes to the Main Street Program include:

- Lowering the minimum loan size for New Loans and Priority Loans (as defined below) to \$250,000 from \$500,000;
- Increasing the maximum loan size for New Loans, Priority Loans and Expanded Loans (as defined below);
- Increasing the term of all three loan options from four years to five years;
- Extending the repayment period for all loans by delaying principal payments for two years, rather than one; and
- Raising the Fed's participation to 95% for all loans.

The Fed said that it expects the Main Street Program to be open for lender registration soon and to be actively buying loans shortly afterwards. The Fed also said that the legal forms previously released by the Fed will be updated to align with the June 8 Guidance. For more details on the program, click [here](#).

WHAT WE'RE READING

LA County Paying PR Firms \$1.9 Million To Help Guide COVID-19 Messaging

Despite having a fully staffed county communications team, FOX 11 has exclusively obtained contracts showing Los Angeles County is spending \$1.9 million to hire two public relations firms for the purpose of guiding the County's coronavirus messaging. In April, FOX 11 obtained

documents showing that L.A. County awarded no-bid contracts to Mercury Public Affairs and Fraser Communications for \$200,000 each for the purpose of "COVID-19 Emergency Communications Support". The total cost to the County at the time was \$400,000. Now, FOX 11 has obtained documents showing L.A. County has not only renewed the contracts for both P.R. firms but has substantially increased the amounts they are being paid. To read the full article, click [here](#).

L.A. City Council Mulls \$5 Million Emergency Fund to Support Street Food Vendors

Los Angeles city councilmember Monica Rodriguez is calling for an emergency \$5 million fund to be created by the city to directly help street food vendors. The money is meant to not only cover some lost revenue from the ongoing coronavirus pandemic and mandated lockdowns, but would also help to finance those vendors still seeking a legal pathway forward for vending. Despite years of legislation and the creation of an approved framework for a vending permit, there are currently less than ten fully licensed vendors capable of working in the city of Los Angeles; the other countless thousands must continue to work illegally thanks to a byzantine system of regulations and costs. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Nike Joins with Athletes to Thank Frontline Healthcare Workers

In recognition of frontline healthcare workers combating COVID-19 around the world, Nike will partner with nonprofit Good360 in the United States and local organizations across Europe to donate more than 140,000 pieces of footwear, apparel and equipment globally. The effort is led by messages of gratitude to healthcare professionals. From one athlete to another, Nike athletes recognize the physical and mental resilience of healthcare athletes. To read the full article, click [here](#).

California's No-Bid Contracts For Pandemic Supplies Reveal Collapsed Deals, Untested Vendors

Some of the contracts topped out at a half-billion dollars. And in a few instances, readily available public records and some Googling should have raised potential red flags. To read the full article, click [here](#).

California Coronavirus Cases Remain On Upward Trajectory

The number of coronavirus infections throughout California continues to rise steadily as counties further lift stay-at-home restrictions amid increasing efforts to restore the battered economy. On Monday, health officials reported nearly 3,100 cases, bringing the total to more than 134,000 infections in the State. California surpassed 100,000 cases a little less than two weeks ago and has reported at least 2,000 infections every day since. To read the full article, click [here](#).

San Francisco Passes Sweeping Pandemic-Related Eviction Ban

Landlords will be permanently barred from evicting tenants if they can't pay rent due to coronavirus-related issues, like job loss or getting sick from the virus, under legislation passed by the Board of Supervisors Tuesday. The legislation passed 10-1, with Supervisor Catherine Stefani in dissent. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Tax Board Won't Urge California Assessors to Offer Virus Relief

California's elected tax board members won't push quick property tax relief for commercial property owners facing potentially lower values due to the coronavirus pandemic. The five-member State Board of Equalization voted 3-2 to reject a proposal that it issue guidance to county assessors that they should accept claims for mid-year declines in value. It was one of several proposals that the Board considered Tuesday in response to the pandemic. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Coronavirus Crisis Likely To Lead To Surge In Political Unrest, Says Report

The coronavirus pandemic is likely to lead to greater political instability and unrest around the world, according to a new report from the Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP), released today. To date there have been almost 7 million confirmed cases of Covid-19 around the world and more than 400,000 deaths, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). The worst affected regions have been Europe (in terms of the number of cases) and the Americas (in terms of deaths). The social and political consequences of this healthcare crisis – and of the economic lockdowns which have been brought in to try and control it – are slowly starting to emerge and leave the world at "a critical juncture." To read the full article, click [here](#).

Starbucks Redefines Its 'Third Place' Strategy To Adapt To The Coronavirus Crisis

Prior to the nationwide lockdowns prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic, Starbucks SBUX was on a path to add more drive-thru locations to its portfolio within the next three to five years. The crisis has accelerated those plans to the next 18 months. There's a reason for such urgency. Simply put, companies with a heavy drive-thru footprint have fared significantly better than those without—both because of the stay-at-home orders and because of the perceived safety of the channel. To read the full article, click [here](#).

In Absence Of Federal Action, Farm Workers' Coronavirus Cases Spike

Coronavirus outbreaks among farm workers are popping up in rural communities across the country, sparking fears within the agriculture industry that cases will skyrocket as harvest season stretches into summer. In the coming weeks, more crews will be sent into fields to pick, pack and ship ripening crops. About a quarter of the 2.5 million-person workforce follows the harvest into other regions, bringing concerns that migratory workers could spread the disease to more farms and states. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Groceries Were Hard To Find For Millions. Now It's Getting Even Worse

The coronavirus has made it harder for everyone to buy food and other essential items under stay-at-home orders, social distancing guidelines and limited delivery slots for online groceries. But even before the pandemic, millions of people in the United States were struggling with access to groceries — and the problem has gotten even worse for them. In 2015, an estimated 39 million people, or 12.8% of the U.S. population, lived in "low income and low access areas," according to the USDA's most recent data. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Where To Keep Your Extra Cash During The Coronavirus Pandemic

As the ranks of the unemployed grow, now is as good a time as any to take stock of your extra cash, emergency funds and other investments. For those with money in the stock market, it's likely to have been an uncomfortable couple of months. If you no longer wish to stomach the wild market swings, there are plenty of other places to keep your cash until the economic landscape stabilizes. Here are a few ideas to explore. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Will California Voters Support New Taxes To Avoid Painful Budget Cuts?

When supporters of increasing commercial property taxes, reshaping property tax transfer rules and legalizing sports gambling began formulating initiatives to put before voters in November, California's economy was riding high — unemployment was at historic lows and state coffers were flush with fat surpluses. With less than five months until Election Day, campaigns are now facing a different reality. California's economy has cratered due to the pandemic, leaving lawmakers scrambling to fill tens of billions of dollars in lost revenues. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Fed: No Rate Hikes Likely Through 2022, Projects 6.5% GDP Contraction This Year

The Federal Reserve decided on Wednesday to hold interest rates steady at near-zero, signaling its intention to support a post-COVID economic recovery by keeping rates at the lower bound through at least 2022. "Financial conditions have improved, in part reflecting policy measures to support the economy and the flow of credit to U.S. households and businesses," the Fed said in its statement released Wednesday afternoon. The Fed also committed to increasing its asset purchases "over coming months." To read the full article, click [here](#).

Evictions Expected To Spike As States End Moratoriums That Offered Relief During COVID-19

Get ready for a flood of evictions. With unemployment at historic highs and moratoriums getting lifted across the United States, tens of thousands of renters are expected to get booted from their homes. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Can Vitamin D Help With Symptoms Of COVID-19? Possibly, It's Key To Helping Your Immune System Function

Before you rush to the store or add the supplements to your online checkout cart to combat COVID-19, it's important to know if you are vitamin D deficient. Although vitamin D is called a vitamin, it's actually more of a hormone. When ultraviolet rays from sunlight strike your skin, the rays trigger vitamin D synthesis. You can build up your vitamin D levels through certain foods and supplements. To read the full article, click [here](#).

As Reopening Continues, Hospitals And Researchers Worry About A COVID Resurgence

It is already clear that the situation is more serious in Chula Vista and especially in Imperial County where hospitals have been seeing outside numbers of admissions coming across the border from the Mexicali port of entry for weeks. High COVID-related death rates have also been reported south of the border, and local hospitals have been busy accepting transfers from sister facilities to the east. San Diego County has seen an overall positive rate among coronavirus tests performed of about 4 percent, compared to 16 percent at Chula Vista hospitals and 18 percent in Imperial County. To read the full article, click [here](#).

The Virus Is Increasing In 21 States Amid Efforts To Reopen

The number of cases is increasing in 21 states, as Americans try to return to their normal routines. And at least 15 cases nationally have been linked to protests, including five National Guard members and one police officer in Nebraska. Health officials on Tuesday in Parsons, Kan., and Stevens Point, Wis., also announced new cases involving people who attended protests. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Coronavirus Vaccine Candidates' Pivotal U.S. Testing to Start This Summer

The federal government plans to fund and conduct the decisive studies of three experimental coronavirus vaccines starting this summer, according to a lead government vaccine researcher. These phase 3 trials are expected to involve tens of thousands of subjects at dozens of sites around the U.S., John Mascola, director of the vaccine research center at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Social Distancing Will Suppress Recovery Despite Emergency Aid, CBO Chief Says

Congress mounted a \$3 trillion response to the pandemic but any boost in economic activity will be "tempered" as long as some social distancing continues, the director of the Congressional Budget Office said Tuesday. CBO Director Phillip Swagel also said in a letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi that additional emergency aid for state and local governments would increase the federal deficit, but help reduce the size of tax hikes and budget cuts that governors and local officials will be forced to consider. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Chief Justice Suspends Vote on Eviction, Foreclosure Emergency Rules

The Judicial Council of California will not vote today on whether to end two emergency rules governing evictions and judicial foreclosures, after Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye announced she suspended the vote. To read the full article, click [here](#).

California Tech CEO Charged In Coronavirus Test Fraud Case

The president of a Silicon Valley medical technology company was charged Tuesday with misleading investors by falsely claiming the company had developed a government-approved blood test for the new coronavirus — the first criminal securities fraud prosecution related to the COVID-19 pandemic, federal officials said. To read the full article, click [here](#).

How The Coronavirus Crisis Is Changing The Insurance Industry

The COVID-19 pandemic, an unprecedented event in modern history, continues to leave its mark on societies and economies around the world. We have learned many lessons so far, the most poignant one being that we weren't prepared for this. The impact on the global economy has been devastating. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) says the global economy will shrink by 3%, the worst decline since the Great Depression of the 1930s. Many advanced economies, including the U.S., UK, Canada, France, and Germany are expected to enter a recession this year. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Newsom Says No Turning Back On Reopening Plans, Even As Coronavirus Cases Climb

California continues to see a surge in coronavirus cases, an expected consequence as stay-at-home orders implemented to stem the spread of the illness are lifted and more sectors of the economy reopen. Los Angeles County announced on Wednesday that gyms and fitness facilities, pro-league arenas without audiences, day camps, museums, galleries, zoos, aquariums, campgrounds, outdoor recreational areas and hotels for leisure travel will be allowed to reopen Friday. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Newsom: Politics, Policy And The Pandemic

Gov. Gavin Newsom has been riding a high tide of approval from Californians for his handling of the Covid-19 pandemic, but he could be heading for stormy weather. His recent poll standing has been what politicians dream of. A June 3 survey by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) says nearly two-thirds of Californians (65 percent of adults, 64 percent likely voters) approve of Newsom's job performance. That is a big jump from his 53 percent approval in February. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Meet Now: How To Use Skype's Free Zoom Alternative For Video Calls

Amid the coronavirus pandemic, Skype stepped up its free video chat service offerings with a new feature called Meet Now, which lets you start a chat or meeting without having to sign up for an account or download the app to your desktop. This is Skype's way of competing with Zoom, which saw a massive surge in users after coronavirus lockdowns and quarantines started -- but has also faced a number of security issues, including uninvited guests "Zoombombing" meetings. To read the full article, click [here](#).

E.U. Asks Facebook, Google, Twitter To Report Monthly On COVID-19 Disinformation

The coronavirus pandemic has been accompanied by a slew of disinformation -- about the origins of the virus, how it spread and how to treat it. For social media companies, it's the latest in a long series of challenges regarding how to prevent the proliferation of false information on their platforms. To read the full article, click [here](#).

L.A. Faces Critical Coronavirus Test: Will Reopening More Businesses Bring Serious New Outbreaks?

Los Angeles County is facing a critical new test in its battle against the coronavirus. Officials are taking another major step in reopening the economy as a slew of additional businesses get the green light to begin accepting customers — and anxious health officials wait to see how much these new activities worsen the spread of the highly contagious virus. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Researchers Ask If Survivor Plasma Could Prevent Coronavirus

Survivors of COVID-19 are donating their blood plasma in droves in hopes it helps other patients recover from the coronavirus. And while the jury's still out, now scientists are testing if the donations might also prevent infection in the first place. Thousands of coronavirus patients in hospitals around the world have been treated with so-called convalescent plasma - including more than 20,000 in the U.S. - with little solid evidence so far that it makes a difference. One

recent study from China was unclear while another from New York offered a hint of benefit. To read the full article, click [here](#).
To read the full article, click here.

Homelessness Deepens In Los Angeles County, Jumps 13%

LOS ANGELES -- The number of homeless people counted across Los Angeles County jumped 12.7% over the past year to more than 66,400 and authorities fear that figure will spike again once the full impact of the coronavirus pandemic is felt, officials said Friday. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Note: While EKA monitors governmental announcements, guidelines and recommendations, our updates are prepared for informational purposes and are compiled from publicly available sources. Our updates should not be considered health, medical, legal, or tax advice. Always consult a qualified professional regarding any specific questions you may have. All hyperlinks are live and will bring you to the information mentioned. If you are not interested in receiving future emails from us, then please reply with a "Remove" in the subject line and mention the email addresses to be removed.