

COVID-19 Update From EKA – June 19, 2020

Stay At Home Order Day 92

Today is day 92 of the [statewide "Stay-at-Home" Order](#). 100 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.

Blood, Platelet and Plasma Donations Needed

Healthy and feeling well? The Red Cross needs blood donations. Help save lives and get insight into if you may have been exposed to this coronavirus. All donations are tested for COVID-19 antibodies. Appointments are required and are available beginning in July. Click [here](#) to sign up.

CA Officials Order Face Coverings

The California Department of Public Health released updated guidance that requires Californians to wear a face covering in high-risk settings. Today's guidance mandates the use of cloth face coverings by the general public statewide when outside the home, with limited exceptions. Californians must wear face coverings when they are in the situations listed below:

- Inside of, or in line to enter, any indoor public space;
- Obtaining services from the healthcare sector in settings including, but not limited to, a hospital, pharmacy, medical clinic, laboratory, physician or dental office, veterinary clinic, or blood bank;
- Waiting for or riding on public transportation or paratransit or while in a taxi, private car service, or ride-sharing vehicle;
- Engaged in work, whether at the workplace or performing work off-site, when:
 - Interacting in-person with any member of the public;
 - Working in any space visited by members of the public, regardless of whether anyone from the public is present at the time;
 - Working in any space where food is prepared or packaged for sale or distribution to others;
 - Working in or walking through common areas, such as hallways, stairways, elevators, and parking facilities;
 - In any room or enclosed area where other people (except for members of the person's own household or residence) are present when unable to physically distance.

- Driving or operating any public transportation or paratransit vehicle, taxi, or private car service or ride-sharing vehicle when passengers are present. When no passengers are present, face coverings are strongly recommended.
- While outdoors in public spaces when maintaining a physical distance of six feet from persons who are not members of the same household or residence is not feasible.

The following individuals are exempt from wearing a face covering:

- Children aged two and under;
- Persons with a medical, mental health, or developmental disability that prevents wearing a face covering;
- Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication;
- Persons for whom wearing a face covering would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines.
- Persons who are obtaining a service involving the nose or face for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service;
- Persons who are seated at a restaurant or other establishment that offers food or beverage service, while they are eating or drinking, provided that they are able to maintain a distance of at least six feet away from persons who are not members of the same household or residence;
- Persons who are engaged in outdoor work or recreation such as swimming, walking, hiking, bicycling, or running, when alone or with household members, and when they are able to maintain a distance of at least six feet from others;
- Persons who are incarcerated. Prisons and jails, as part of their mitigation plans, will have specific guidance on the wearing of face coverings of masks for both inmates and staff.

More information about the state's COVID-19 guidance is on the [California Department of Public Health's Guidance web page](#).

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Bars, Nail Salons, Tattoo Parlors Reopen

Los Angeles County has given the green light for several more businesses to reopen today. The list includes bars, wineries, breweries and tasting rooms, personal care services — including esthetician, skin care and cosmetology services, electrology, nail salons, body art professionals, tattoo parlors, microblading, piercing shops and massage therapy businesses — card rooms, satellite wagering facilities and racetracks without spectators. These businesses will be able to open, in some cases at limited capacity, once they have the appropriate infection control and distancing requirements in place. In addition, protests and faith-based services held outdoors will no longer have limits on how many people can participate, starting today.

Phase 3

Los Angeles County remains in Phase 3 of the [State's Resilience Roadmap](#). Residents must continue to practice physical distancing, wear cloth face coverings and follow Public Health directives. If at any time the County's rate of infection and other key metrics demonstrate a rapid acceleration of new cases that threatens to overwhelm the healthcare system, the Public Health and the Board of Supervisors may need to limit future re-openings or close reopened sectors. Getting a manicure, a massage or a tattoo, or going to a card room will be a different experience than it was before the pandemic. Each sector reopening will have strict infection control directives in place. Just as is required for all out-of-home activities, visitors and staff will have to practice physical distancing and wear cloth face coverings. There will be limited capacity and enhanced cleaning and disinfecting procedures. People feeling sick should stay home. These additional re-openings follow other significant elements of the economy and community that have begun reopening and operating with limits and safeguards, including gyms, day camps, museums, spectator-free sports, hair salons, barber shops, religious services, retail, restaurants, beaches and trails. The updated 40-page Health Order has three new Appendices:

- HOO Appendix Q-Reopening Protocol for Cardrooms, satellite wagering facilities, and racetrack onsite wagering facilities
- HOO Appendix R-Reopening Protocol for Personal Care Establishments
- HOO Appendix S-Reopening Protocol for Bars, Winery and Brewery Tasting Rooms

To read the latest L.A. County Health Order, click [here](#).

Still Closed

Still closed are movie theaters, live performance theaters, entertainment centers, concert halls and venues, stadiums, arenas, gaming facilities, theme parks, lounges and nightclubs, hot tubs, steam rooms and saunas not located on a residential property and festivals. Click [here](#) for a detailed list of what is currently open and closed in L.A. County. Click [here](#) for frequently asked questions by residents about resuming the use of previously closed sectors. The plans for reopening are part of a phased progression that provides residents, employees and customers with safety protections to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Free COVID-19 Testing Available

LA County strongly encourages all L.A. County residents who are interested in being tested to first contact their Primary Care Provider or Healthcare Center about receiving a test their facility. If you do not have access to this care or are unable to contact them, free testing is available across the County. Click [here](#) for more information and to sign up for a free test.

Great Plates Delivered

LA County's Great Plates Delivered program has been extended through Friday, July 10. This program provides three free home-delivered meals a day from local restaurants to qualifying older adults and adults over 60 who are at high-risk of COVID-19. County. Click [here](#) to visit the Great Plates Delivered website.

LOS ANGELES

Vacancy Tax

The Los Angeles City Council advanced a motion directing the City Attorney to draft an ordinance establishing the policy and parameters of a vacancy tax similar to the vacancy tax that was adopted by the City of Oakland with some exclusions for non-corporate owned single-family homes and non-mixed use commercial properties. A vacancy tax imposes a tax on property owners that maintain vacant land or units. The Council must adopt the ordinance by July 1, for it to be placed on the November 2020 ballot for voter approval. It is anticipated that the Council will return early next week to review the draft ordinance and consider its adoption.

LONG BEACH

Long Beach Parks Programs

Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) summer youth and teen programs for 2020 will feature greatly reduced fees, lower staff-to-camper ratios and enhanced safety protocols. The City's parks programs provide critical opportunities for families and kids to have a healthy, active lifestyle this summer. This year, PRM will depart from its traditionally-offered summer programming, which offered two different programs: (1) a free, drop-in program offered for six hours a day and (2) fee-based, thematic day camps with care for up to 12 hours. Instead, it will combine the two programs, increasing the availability of childcare programs for children citywide while lowering fees.

Summer Day Camps for Ages 5-12

Recreation Reimagined' camps will take place at 22 sites across the City and offer a variety of recreational, educational enrichment and fitness activities. An optional lunch, provided by the Long Beach Unified School District, will be available to campers at no charge. Camps will operate weekdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., from July 6 through August 28 at the cost of \$30 per week (down from \$115 per week). Extended care is available from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. for an additional \$20 per week. Youth scholarships will be available to Long Beach families who may need assistance affording the weekly camp fee. For information on scholarships, call (562) 570.3150. Long Beach residents may register online at lbparks.org, beginning at 8 a.m. on June 20. On-site registration for residents will also be available from 8 a.m. to noon on June 20 at Belmont Plaza Pool (4000 Olympic Plaza), King Park Pool (1910 Lemon Avenue), Pan American Park (5157 Centralia Street), and the PRM Administration Building (2760 Studebaker Road). After that, on-site registration is available by appointment only by calling (562) 570.3150.

SACRAMENTO

Workers' Compensation

Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara issued an [Order](#) adopting emergency workers' compensation regulations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These new regulations will mandate insurance companies to recompute premium charges for policyholders to reflect the reduced risk of loss consistent with Commissioner Lara's [April 13](#) and [May 15](#), 2020 Bulletins, and will result in savings for many policyholders. The [Order](#) will provide some financial relief for employers. Under these emergency regulations, employers are permitted to reclassify an

employee if the employee's duties have changed to a clerical classification that has reduced risk than the employee's previous classification. This reclassification will reduce the employer's premiums for employees who are at a lower risk because they are now working from home even though they may not have previously done so. This change would be retroactive to March 19, 2020, the first day of the Governor's statewide stay-at-home Order, and conclude 60 days after the Order is lifted.

These emergency regulations also exclude from premium calculations the payments made to an employee, including sick or family leave, while the employee is not performing duties of any kind for the employer. Typically, these payments would be used as a basis for the employer's workers' compensation premium. This change will lower the employer's rate by reducing the amount of payroll assessed, and the employer will not pay a premium for paid workers who are otherwise being furloughed. This new regulation will also exclude claims related to a COVID-19 diagnosis from being included in future rate calculations so that employers are not penalized with higher rates due to COVID-19 claims. The new regulations will go into effect on July 1, 2020. To view the 5-page Order, click [here](#).

LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS

Challenge to Ban on Mass Gatherings

A panel of Seventh Circuit judges [upheld](#) Illinois' Covid-19 stay-at-home rules, refusing to issue an injunction against Governor J.B. Pritzker's decision to restrict indoor religious gatherings to no more than ten people. The quick decision was made after oral [arguments](#) in which two Chicago-area churches said the Governor was discriminating against religion by not allowing them to hold in-person worship services as part of his plan to battle the pandemic. Elim Romanian Pentecostal Church in Chicago and Logos Baptist Ministries in suburban Niles, Illinois, both serving Romanian Christians sued Governor Pritzker in May, alleging he was violating several First Amendment rights by targeting religious congregations. The churches said in their complaint that it is discriminatory that commercial businesses like grocery stores and warehouses have been allowed to remain open while their members were forced to stay away.

Shutdown Order Harms Hotel

A Palm Springs hotel asked a California federal judge for an emergency order to reopen its doors, arguing that Governor Newsom's ability to shut down businesses during a health emergency like the current coronavirus pandemic infringed the hotel's constitutional rights. At a telephone hearing, PCG-SP Venture I LLC, which does business as the V Palm Springs Hotel, asked U.S. District Judge Jesus G. Bernal to issue a temporary restraining order, arguing that Newsom and other government officials made an overly broad shutdown order that arbitrarily designated some businesses as "essential" and others as "nonessential." Martha P. Ehlenbach of California's Attorney General's Office said there is a functional set of guidelines for different workplaces and gatherings and that, since June 12, hotels are allowed to open. She said the V Palm Springs Hotel has the relief it wanted. Ehlenbach also said the hotel couldn't demonstrate a likelihood of irreparable harm if the restraining Order is not granted. The V Palm Springs Hotel filed suit against Newsom, Attorney General Becerra and State Public Health Officer Sonia Y.

Angell, alleging its rights were violated when it was ordered to close as part of the statewide stay-at-home Order implemented in March. The hotel said that Riverside County, its place of business, started reopening shopping centers and restaurants for dining in on May 21, but hotels were not included. The Judge said he would think about the issues and likely issue a written order by the end of the week.

REOPENING

Where California Stands In Its Reopening Phases

More businesses that were closed for months due to the Coronavirus pandemic are slated to open back up today in accordance with the state's new guidelines. The state's reopening process appears to be moving forward, but with exceptions. Despite the Governor's Newsom's announcements in recent weeks for some businesses to open up, the state is leaving many of those decisions up to counties.

California's rigid reopening plan has not panned out with the structure it started out with at the start of the pandemic. The phase system was implemented as residents were told to quarantine at home, and while nonessential businesses were forced to shut their doors.

NATIONAL

Forgiveness Applications

The U.S. Small Business Administration, in consultation with the Department of the Treasury, posted a revised, borrower-friendly Paycheck Protection Program loan forgiveness application implementing the PPP Flexibility Act of 2020. In addition to revising the full forgiveness application, SBA also published a new E.Z. version of the forgiveness application that applies to borrowers that:

- Are self-employed and have no employees; OR
- Did not reduce the salaries or wages of their employees by more than 25%, and did not reduce the number or hours of their employees; OR
- Experienced reductions in business activity as a result of health directives related to COVID-19, and did not reduce the salaries or wages of their employees by more than 25%.

The E.Z. application requires fewer calculations and less documentation for eligible borrowers. Details regarding the applicability of these provisions are available in the instructions to the new E.Z. application form. Both applications give borrowers the option of using the original 8-week covered period (if their loan was made before June 5, 2020) or an extended 24-week covered period. These changes will result in a more efficient process and make it easier for businesses to realize full forgiveness of their PPP loan. Click [here](#) to view the E.Z. Forgiveness Application. Click [here](#) to view the Full Forgiveness Application.

How COVID-19 Spreads

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued a document that says COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly through close contact between people, through respiratory droplets from an infected person who coughs, sneezes, or talks. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. For more information, click [here](#).

CDC Resources

The CDC says that COVID-19 Outbreak is a rapidly evolving situation and that they are putting out information as it becomes available. The latest documents they issues are below.

- [Deciding to Go Out](#)
- [Personal and Social Activities](#)
- [I Had COVID-19 but No Symptoms and I think or Know I had COVID-19 and I had Symptoms. When Can I Be With Others?](#)
- [Guidance for Handlers of Service and Therapy Animals](#)

QUESTIONS EKA HAS RECEIVED

Is School Out Forever?

Many employers have called their team, excited to get back to work but inevitably are hearing from some employees that they cannot work, remotely or otherwise, because they have children at home instead of summer camp or daycare. The next question one of these employees may ask is whether they can get paid while they are at home caring for their children? Remember, they received the [Families First Coronavirus Response Act \(FFCRA\) poster](#) you sent to them on April 1 (if you haven't done this and posted it in your workplace, be sure to do so ASAP!) Luckily, Question #93 of the [Department of Labor's FAQs](#) provides us with an answer.

Do I Have To Offer Paid Sick Leave Or Expanded Family Medical Leave For Our Employees To Care For Their Children Because Their School Is Closed For Summer School?

Yes, if your employee's child care provider during the summer, whether it's a camp or other program, is closed or unavailable for a COVID-19 related reason, Emergency Paid Sick Leave (ePSL) and Expanded Family Medical Leave (eFMLA) are available for this qualifying reason. The DOL makes the distinction that, in order for an employee to be eligible for ePSL or eFMLA for childcare reasons, the facility must be closed due to COVID-19 reasons, not simply due to the end of the traditional school year. For COVID-19 reasons ranging from the lack of ability to socially distance to the lack of Personal Protective Equipment, many camps and other traditional summer childcare activities have been canceled. In these circumstances, employees who have work available to them, but are unable to work or telework are still eligible for paid FFCRA time off. As a reminder, a son or daughter is an employee's own biological, adopted, or foster child, a stepchild, a legal ward, or a child to whom the employee stands in loco parentis, who is 18 years of age or older and incapable of self-care because of mental or physical disability at the time that FMLA leave is to commence.

WHAT WE'RE READING

L.A. County Casinos Given Go-Ahead

Hews Media Group has learned that health officials have given casinos Los Angeles County the go-ahead to reopen starting this Friday at 6 a.m. The news will be welcomed relief to employees of the casinos as well as the cities that rely on the casinos for revenue. In late May, six card clubs sent a reopening proposal to Newsom; that included the Gardens Casino in Hawaiian Gardens, the Bicycle Club in Bell Gardens, the Commerce Casino in Commerce, Hollywood Park in Inglewood, Hustler, and Crystal Casinos. The clubs proposed a comprehensive 20-page Health and Sanitation program developed after consulting all available information and guidance from the CDC and state and local public health agencies and in collaboration with medical experts from UCLA and USC. To read the full article, click [here](#).

A Breeding Ground for Spread of COVID-19: L.A. Area Buses and Trains

People who use Los Angeles area Metro buses and trains are taking to social media and telling the NBCLA I-Team that there are dangerous behaviors among riders, that could spread the coronavirus to other riders, who then pass it to their families and co-workers. By Metro's own count, 100 drivers and other workers have tested positive--two of them have died. Metro does not keep track of cases among its hundreds of thousands of riders. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Airlines May Ban Passengers From Future Flights For Not Wearing Face Masks

A group of U.S. airlines, including Alaska Airlines, American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Hawaiian Airlines JetBlue Airways, Southwest Airlines and United Airlines, will enforce stricter face mask policies with the aim of keeping passengers and employees safe amid the coronavirus pandemic. The stricter policies require almost all passengers to wear face masks for the duration of the flight. Passengers who ignore the face covering rule can be banned by the airline from future flights, according to a release from industry trade group Airlines for America. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Is It Safe To Go Back To The Office? How To Protect Yourself From The Coronavirus At Work

While the majority of corporate America is still working from home, many are wondering what will happen once they have to go back to the office. The coronavirus pandemic has changed society in more ways than one -- including how we work. But how long will the changes last and will things "go back to normal" at your workplace? To read the full article, click [here](#).

Democratic Presidential Nominee Joe Biden On Wednesday Called On President Donald Trump To "Wake up,"

Accusing him of waving a "white flag and retreating" from the fight against the coronavirus even as the pandemic continues to ravage the health and finances of Americans. "Donald Trump wants to style himself as a wartime president. Unlike any other wartime leader, he takes no responsibility, he exercises no leadership, now he has just flat surrendered the fight," Biden

said during a campaign stop in Darby, Pennsylvania, a suburb of Philadelphia. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Latinos More Impacted by COVID-19

Latinos continue to be disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, the County Health and Human Services Agency announced today. Of the nearly 9,900 COVID-19 cases with known race/ethnicity, about 67% are Hispanic or Latino even though they make up about 34% of the local population. County data also shows the rate of infection is about 470 people per every 100,000 residents, the highest rate in the region. Furthermore, of the 327 COVID-19 deaths, about 43% or 139 were Latinos. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Price Gouging Persists During Pandemic, Despite Push To Stamp It Out

We're three months into the pandemic, but it's still easy to find examples of price gouging on Amazon. Last Friday, within five minutes, CNET found Cottonelle toilet paper listed on Amazon for \$57.42 (price for the same item on Target: \$21.49), and a two-pack of 28-ounce jars of Rao's marinara sauce for \$29.04 (an adjacent listing of 24-ounce jars from Amazon-owned Whole Foods would cost you \$10.78). The problem isn't confined to Amazon's massive digital storefront. It's pretty much everywhere. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Florida, Arizona And Texas Set Records For New COVID-19 Cases

Florida, Texas and Arizona set records for new COVID-19 cases, and more than a dozen other states are also reporting big jumps in the number of cases as much of the country reopens after months of quarantine. Are the governors in the worst-hit states considering another shutdown? Not a chance, if you ask them. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Coronavirus Hospitalizations Rise In Orange, Ventura Counties

Officials across Southern California are grappling with whether to temper reopening efforts in the face of rising coronavirus hospitalizations, a move that seems likely to spark public outcry. Statewide, hospitalizations among COVID-19 patients have been relatively flat for the last six weeks, even as officials have allowed myriad businesses to open their doors and a number of residents have resumed daily routines. But in Orange and Ventura counties, hospitalizations are again on the rise, prompting health experts to warn that if the trend continues, it could cause officials to slow the pace of reopening. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Cows' Antibodies May Help Humans During Coronavirus Crisis

A South Dakota biotech company is using cows to create antibodies that could then be used for disease prevention or treatment. The cows have been given the genes to make a human-like immune system. To read the full article, click [here](#).

How — and When — Can the Coronavirus Vaccine Become a Reality

It's been six months since researchers in China said they had identified a novel coronavirus spreading in the City of Wuhan. Hope and desire for a vaccine to end the global devastation is growing with each passing week. Almost every day, I hear people making plans around the eventual arrival of a coronavirus vaccine — office reopenings, rescheduled weddings, family

reunions and international travel. In recent weeks, colleagues and friends have asked me with growing urgency: "When will we have a vaccine? Will it be any good?" To read the full article, click [here](#).

FDA Continues To Heavily Police COVID-19 Claims Targeting Blogs And Influencers In Addition To Brands

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) continues to send out [warning letters](#) to unscrupulous parties taking advantage of the current COVID-19 pandemic to sell products falsely claiming to prevent, cure, or treat the disease. Of all the warning letters sent out in 2020 from the Office of Unapproved Drugs and Labeling Compliance, only two did not relate to COVID-19 product claims. So far, over 60 warning letters have been distributed for unapproved and misbranded products related to COVID-19. These letters cover a range of products, including dietary supplements. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Tour De Force: What Constitutes An "Act Of God," And Other Developments In Force Majeure Law

Historically, "Act of God" was defined to encompass sickness, but the concept has evolved, and it is unclear whether, in the absence of an express reference to epidemics in a force majeure clause, courts will find COVID-19 to be an Act of God. A newly filed opinion suggests that courts may find payment obligations excused due to COVID-19 when the language of the force majeure clause does not expressly preclude it. Developments in the case law from our last issue are included below in orange text. To read the full article, click [here](#).

AT&T Is Cutting Thousands of Jobs and It's Just the Beginning

AT&T Inc. is notifying thousands of employees that their jobs are being eliminated as part of a \$6 billion cost-cutting push, an attempt to slim down one of the most heavily indebted companies in the U.S. The cuts follow through on a plan that Chief Executive Officer Randall Stephenson outlined in October when he said the company would remove "big chunks of costs" over two years. To read the full article, click [here](#).

L.A. Represents Provides Pro Bono Legal Help For COVID-19-Related Issues

Mayor of Los Angeles Eric Garcetti and City Attorney Mike Feuer assembled a coalition of law firms, bar associations and attorneys to provide pro bono legal assistance for COVID-19-related issues in a program called "L.A. Represents." Attorneys are helping vulnerable tenants, domestic violence victims and low-income individuals with employment, consumer debt, and bankruptcy matters, according to the program's website. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Fed's Powell Says U.S. Economy Is Entering Bounce-Back Still Clouded By 'Significant Uncertainty'

Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell said Tuesday that the US is nearing the end of its shutdown phase and beginning to bounce back. The central bank chair told the Senate Banking Committee in Tuesday testimony that surprisingly optimistic retail sales and jobs data suggest a bottom was reached in May. Still, employment and economic activity "remain far below their pre-pandemic levels" and "significant uncertainty" looms over the nation's trajectory, Powell

warned. Powell also emphasized that a true economic rebound hinges on equality, noting the downturn could further widen gaps in economic well-being that the long expansion had made some progress closing." To read the full article, click [here](#).

The Coronavirus is Changing U.S. Views of Social Policies

The coronavirus crisis has laid bare the health, social, and economic inequalities that have been growing in the United States for decades. The pandemic is killing Black Americans at over twice the rate of white Americans, Black women are experiencing some of the largest losses in employment, and child hunger among working class communities continues to grow. Together with the protests against racial injustice, this moment of upheaval is leading to calls across the U.S. for structural reforms to the social and economic systems in our country. To read the full article, click [here](#).

New PPP loan forgiveness applications released

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), in consultation with Treasury, released Wednesday a revised loan forgiveness application for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). The SBA also unveiled a new EZ application for forgiveness of PPP loans. The applications reflect changes to the PPP made by the Paycheck Protection Flexibility Act of 2020, P.L. 116-142, which became law June 5. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Counting the dead: Nursing home COVID data a 'tangled mess'

Throughout the pandemic, government officials have struggled to accurately track the thousands of vulnerable seniors and disabled people who contracted COVID-19 in nursing homes. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Trump's Handling Of Covid-19 Is Creating Headwinds For November

The top issue facing the people of California today is the coronavirus outbreak, according to California's likely voters. How state and federal leaders respond to this unprecedented crisis will be on voters' minds when they cast ballots in the November election. In the May PPIC Statewide Survey, we find that widespread voter disapproval of Donald Trump's handling of the pandemic is creating headwinds not only for the incumbent president but also for Republican candidates in House elections. To read the full article, click [here](#).

California Community Colleges Win Suit On Behalf Of Undocumented Students

A district judge barred the U.S. Department of Education's initial rules about which students could have federal relief money from being enforced. The decision means undocumented students, among others, may receive money from California community colleges as part of the CARES Act. To read the full article, click [here](#).

COVID-19 Could Close Three Fourths Of California's Outdoor Science Education Programs

Outdoor programs for K-12 students in California — such as science schools, nature parks, aquariums and zoos — are in danger of going away because of the long-term impact of COVID-19. By the end of 2020 more than 4 million students could miss out on over 9.5 million hours of science and environmental education in California. To read the full article, click [here](#).

University Of California Campuses Plan To Offer Most Classes Online This Fall

All but one of University of California's nine undergraduate campuses have now announced plans to offer many classes — if not all — online this fall, as the four-year university system moves forward amid the coronavirus pandemic. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Under Pressure: Big Risks, Few Answers On Reopening Schools

Governors are promising to put kids back in classrooms in a matter of weeks, but it's mostly school officials stuck navigating the messy details of how to keep students and teachers safe and win over skeptical parents, while dealing with a budget crisis that is forcing layoffs and other cuts. In California, six major school districts warned state lawmakers that proposed budget cuts could delay the fall semester. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Is It Safe To Stay In Hotels As Reopenings Get Underway?

Is it safe to stay in hotels as reopenings get underway? It depends on the precautions both you and the hotel take. It's best to call ahead to see how the place you're considering is working to minimize the risk of COVID-19. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggests asking if the staff is wearing face coverings, for example, and whether cleaning practices have been stepped up. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Mask-Wearing Becomes Political Even As Some Governors Ease Resistance

Some state and local leaders are softening their resistance to issuing public masking requirements as emerging research shows face coverings can slow the spread of COVID-19, even as others are doubling down on their opposition. The debate over whether to require face coverings in public has become increasingly politicized in recent weeks, even as COVID-19 cases have gone up in the Sun Belt and some other parts of the country as lockdowns across the country have greatly eased. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Casino Regulators Tighten Mask Rules As Coronavirus Cases Spike In Las Vegas

Nevada gaming regulators have updated rules to require players to wear masks at gaming tables where there are no plexiglass partitions. But the regulators stopped short of mandating masks for all visitors inside a casino or for slot players. Coronavirus cases in Clark County, where Las Vegas is located, have risen, with a record daily number of new cases Tuesday. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Scammers Posing As Coronavirus Contact Tracers Jeopardize Program

It's one of the greatest hopes for stopping the spread of [coronavirus](#): contact tracing. Health workers across the state are calling people who were exposed to the virus - and directing them to quarantine. But now, officials warn imposters are out there too. This has posed a dilemma for the contact tracing program. On the one hand, officials are urging all of us to respond when health workers call. 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.