

COVID-19 Update From EKA – June 22, 2020

Stay At Home Order Day 95

Today is day 95 of the [statewide "Stay-at-Home" Order](#). 103 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.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Board of Supervisors

The Board agenda for June 23 has been posted. To view the entire agenda, click [here](#). To view the supplemental agenda, click [here](#). Item 40-A is titled "Responsible Reopening of County Facilities and Phased Transition to Resumption of Regular Operations for Our Workforce." The Motion by Supervisors Barger and Solis would adopt a reconstitution framework submitted on June 8, 2020 and direct all County Departments, supported by the County Emergency Operations Center (CEOC) and the Department of Public Health, to take the following actions:

- Develop and submit Department-specific plans by July 31, 2020 to the Chief Executive Office to resume public-facing operations in County facilities, with a timeline for the phased reopening(s) of no earlier than July 6, 2020, with an emphasis on both client and employee safety;
- Develop plans and processes for buildings and floors where multiple County Departments are housed in a collaborative manner with input from each resident Department, where the plans should:
 - Include formalized processes for shared spaces such as lobbies, kitchens, cafeterias, supply rooms, restrooms and meeting spaces;
 - Include formalized processes for queueing of clients in the common areas such as lobbies and hallways;
 - Include revised facility operations, such as additional partitions and barriers, where necessary, for public-facing counters and operations;
 - Be reviewed by the building management/owners for all leased facilities; and
 - Develop capabilities for a web-based model for providing County services to the general public; and

The Motion directs the Chief Executive Officer and the Director of Personnel to work with County Departments and report back to the Board in six weeks on identification of internal and external essential functions that could continue to be provided using existing telework models

and make them permanent, where appropriate, with accompanying metrics to continually assess the efficacy and viability of these models, recommendations for the potential use of modified work schedules, where appropriate, to comply with physical distancing and other public health guidelines, and recommendations for the re-use of existing County facilities and buildings, utilizing newly available space resulting from the shift of some employees to telework, for new uses, including on-site childcare services.

Rent Relief

The Board of Supervisors will consider a motion to pull up to \$20 million in funding earmarked for affordable housing to use it instead for rent relief. The proposal co-authored by Supervisors Kuehl and Ridley-Thomas, is aimed at preventing a huge uptick in homelessness as a result of the coronavirus. They have asked their colleagues to relax a rule set by the Board in 2015 that requires at least 75% of \$100 million set aside for the Affordable Housing Programs Budget Unit be spent on new housing or renovations. The Motion says, "The Affordable Housing Programs Budget Unit did not contemplate an emergency on the scale of COVID-19. While we must maintain our commitment to the production of new, and preservation of existing, affordable housing we must also respond to this emergency." Kuehl and Ridley-Thomas cite a May report by the UCLA Luskin Institute on Inequality and Democracy predicting that as many as 120,000 households with 184,000 children could find themselves unable to pay rent and evicted as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board of Supervisors has extended a countywide eviction moratorium to at least June 30, and will reconsider the matter every 30 days thereafter. The recommendation by Kuehl and Ridley-Thomas to spend money on preventing homelessness that was originally intended to build new housing supply comes just a day after the city and county reached a settlement with the L.A. Alliance for Human Rights by agreeing to shelter and provide services for 6,000 more homeless people within 10 months. The county's commitment includes spending \$300 million over five years to provide services to those 6,000 individuals. The Kuehl/Ridley-Thomas motion does not lay out how rent relief dollars would be allocated, whether it would be paid to renters or directly to landlords, or how much any one household could be expected to receive or for how long. It calls for the details to be mapped out within 30 days by the Los Angeles County Development Authority.

Civil Unrest Disaster Assistance Loans

Disaster recovery loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration are now available to Los Angeles County businesses who suffered physical damage or economic injury due to the civil unrest incidents that began on May 26, 2020. Businesses of all sizes and private nonprofit organizations may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and other business assets. SBA low interest loans can also help businesses with the cost of improvements to protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future. There are two important deadlines to apply for assistance from SBA. Business owners must file an application by August 17, 2020 for property damage applications and by March 17, 2021 for economic injury applications. There are several ways to apply:

- Complete an application online at

- Call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance.
- Individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing may call (800) 877-8339.

LONG BEACH

Long Beach Announces Timeline Reopening of Bars and Personal Grooming

Bars and nail salons have been permitted to open provided they meet physical distancing and sanitization requirements. Religious services and cultural ceremonies, such as funerals, can now be conducted outside with modifications. Bars and wineries may reopen at 50 percent capacity, with bar areas closed and with no standing permitted. Patrons may use restaurant-style seating. Nail salons may reopen with restrictions and with proper safety protocols in place, such as a minimum of six feet of distance between service stations, mandatory facial coverings for both employees and patrons, frequent sanitization of high-touch surfaces and limited patron capacity. Starting June 26, personal care services (e.g., tattoo parlors, cosmetology services, body-waxing, spa and massage therapy in non-healthcare settings, body art professionals and piercing shops) will be permitted to reopen with restrictions and with property safety protocols in place. The following businesses are to remain closed in Long Beach until further notice. For more information, read the City's [press release](#). To review the new Health Order click [here](#). To review the different business protocols that need to be followed, navigate to page 23 of the Health Order or click [here](#) and navigate to the "Health Orders and Protocol" section.

SACRAMENTO

Governor's Emergency Powers

An appellate judge stayed a lower court's order barring Gov. Gavin Newsom from issuing directives that might conflict with state law, freeing him to take additional executive actions during the coronavirus pandemic. Sutter County Superior Court Judge Perry Parker temporarily blocked Newsom's executive order requiring in-person balloting stations even as every registered voter is mailed a ballot for the November election. The judge also sided with two Republican lawmakers by more broadly requiring Newsom to refrain from new orders that might be interpreted as infringing on the Legislature's responsibilities. The lawmakers argued that Newsom overstepped his authority with dozens of orders preempting state law since the pandemic began. Other state and federal judges have repeatedly blocked previous challenges to the governor's emergency orders during the pandemic. Presiding Justice Vance Raye of the Third District Court of Appeal, in a two-sentence directive, stayed the lower court's action and barred Perry from issuing any further orders, but he allowed court proceedings to continue. Perry has set a June 26 hearing in the case. Two bills are quickly working their way through the Legislature that "will essentially ratify and supersede" orders that he issued only because county election officials need time to prepare in the meantime, they wrote. In a sign of how testy things have become, Newsom's lawyers asked that the lawmakers be required to pay the administration's legal costs, while the lawmakers said they may ask for costs or fines that they promised to donate "to groups adversely affected by the Governor's unlawful order."

10 Year Rent Relief

A Democratic plan to give struggling California tenants 10 years to make up rent gone unpaid during the coronavirus is taking shape in the state Senate. The proposal, backed by Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins and Senate Majority Leader Bob Hertzberg would send immediate relief, once it's passed, to renters who've faced job loss or wage cuts amid the COVID-19 pandemic. [Senate Bill 1410](#) would encourage landlords and tenants to make a deal under a "rent stabilization agreement" before a homeowner could throw someone out for failing to make rent. The agreement would allow the tenant to defer rent during the coronavirus emergency without fear of being evicted. If the renter declines to make a deal, the landlord would have to secure a signature-verified document proving he or she attempted negotiations with the tenant. The state would then assume the financial burden, and allow renters 10 years beginning in 2024 to pay back unpaid rent accumulated during COVID-19. Tenants could make payments incrementally or, if they can't afford the installments, could receive loan forgiveness. In return, landlords would get 10 years of tax credits equal to the amount of unpaid rent. Property owners could also sell the tax credits to investors for immediate cash flow. The bill does not have a cost estimate.

Medical Surveillance Examinations

The California Division of Occupational Safety and Health, commonly known as Cal/OSHA, issued temporary emergency [guidance](#) to assist physicians and other licensed health care professionals (PLHCPs) balance the benefits of providing mandated medical surveillance examinations against the risks of potential COVID-19 exposure. Medical surveillance is the analysis of health information to look for problems that may be occurring in the workplace that require targeted prevention. There are currently 28 Cal/OSHA standards that require employers to offer their employees medical surveillance examinations and other medical services on a specified schedule, when employees may be exposed to certain workplace hazards. Cal/OSHA has published [Table 1](#), which offers guidance on the type of exposure to workplace hazards for which a medical surveillance examination may or may not be temporarily delayed.

LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS

California hospital sues Dignity Health

The medical staff of St. Mary Medical Center in Long Beach, Calif., filed a lawsuit against the hospital and its operator, San Francisco-based Dignity Health. The lawsuit lists several actions the administration at the hospital and Dignity Health have taken that allegedly violate multiple laws intended to protect quality of patient care, according to the [Long Beach Press-Telegram](#). The actions allegedly occurred since 2018, when California's attorney general approved the merger of Dignity Health and Catholic Health Initiatives. The complaint alleges that St. Mary Medical Center and Dignity Health have violated state regulations that allow medical staff to provide input on the potential termination of exclusive provider contracts, according to the report. The complaint specifically mentions a plan to terminate a contract with the group that provides services in the hospital's emergency department.

The medical staff alleges that the most recent contract termination and prior contract terminations are eroding the ability of physicians at the hospital to provide independent, quality healthcare to their patients. The medical staff's complaint includes several requests, including for the judge to order the hospital to maintain the existing makeup of the medical staff and its medical executive committee, obtain advice of the medical executive committee before termination of any additional exclusive contracts, comply with all requirements of the medical staff bylaws pertaining to the medical staff's rights for oversight of the quality of patient care at the hospital and for its self-governance. The hospital and Dignity Health have denied any wrongdoing. "SMMC believes these claims are without merit. After a lengthy process, a new ER group was brought in. It's important to note that the majority of current ER physicians have been hired by the new group, St. Mary Medical Center CEO Carolyn Caldwell said in a June 17 statement to the *Press-Telegram*. To read the full *Press-Telegram* article click [here](#).

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Riverside County Placed Watch List

Riverside County has landed on a state watch list for the novel coronavirus following a surge in new cases and hospitalizations from the disease. The county [made the California Department of Public Health list](#) after a spike in new cases and a higher percentage of positive tests for COVID-19. The county's 8.8% positive test rate exceeds the state goal of 8%, and the county slightly exceeds a state threshold for the acceptable average change in COVID-19 hospitalization rates. Riverside County can get off the list if its metrics improve for three days. If it fails to show enough progress in hospitalization and infection rates over a 14-day period, the county could potentially be forced to take more restrictive measures or risk losing a special status that allows county businesses shuttered by the pandemic to reopen more quickly. To get that status, the county had to meet certain benchmarks for hospital and testing capacity and caseloads. In recent days, the county has set single-day records for new cases and seen a new high in hospitalizations of patients confirmed to have COVID-19. The county's placement on the list means the state is monitoring Riverside County's data and metrics more closely.

REOPENING

California Issue Hotel Reopening Guidelines

As California hotels begin to reopen with the lifting of stay at home orders, the state Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) and California Department of Public Health have issued [guidelines](#) for the hotels and lodging industry. Cal/OSHA and CDPH released the guidelines and a [checklist](#) to help employers in the industry keep employees safe during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Hotels and lodging must create worksite-specific COVID-19 prevention plans like other employers in California. Some of the Cal/OSHA and CDPH recommendations are identical to guidance for other employers and guidance for general businesses from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration—encouraging handwashing, maintaining distances of at least six feet between employees and from members of the public, including in elevators, wearing cloth face coverings, using cleaning and disinfection products approved by the Environmental Protection

Agency as effective against the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and staggering shifts and breaks to discourage employees from congregating. Additional cleaning and disinfecting protocols for hotels and lodging include:

- Removing all reusable collateral, such as magazines, menus, local attraction details, and coupons from rooms; and providing such materials as single-use collateral or posting information electronically;
- Removing and transporting dirty linens from guest rooms in single-use, sealed bags and changing pillow protectors daily—bagging items in guest rooms to eliminate unnecessary contact while being transported;
- Washing all linen and laundry at high temperature in accordance with [CDC guidelines](#);
- Allowing housekeepers extra time to clean rooms without loss of pay to account for required precautions and time to conduct more thorough cleaning and disinfection of rooms between guests;
- Considering leaving rooms vacant for 24 to 72 hours prior to or after cleaning;
- Removing a guest's room from service in the event of a possible COVID-19 case. The room should not be returned to service until the suspected case has been confirmed or cleared;
- Implementing an enhanced sanitization protocol, ideally by a licensed third-party expert, before returning a room to service following a confirmed positive COVID-19 case;
- Installing hand-sanitizer dispensers, preferably touchless dispensers, at key guest and employee entrances, as well as at high-contact areas such as convention and meeting spaces, driveways, elevator landings, exercise areas, lobbies, pools, reception areas, restaurant entrances, and salons;
- Providing guests with an amenity bag during check-in containing a face covering, hand sanitizer, and a COVID-19 awareness card; *and*
- Where possible, equipping guest rooms with a bottle of sanitizer for guest use.

Physical distancing protocols for guest services include:

- Using physical partitions to separate guests from employees or providing visual cues, such as floor markings or signs to indicate where employees and/or guests should stand;
- Clearly marking appropriate distances where guests or employees might queue up, including check-in, check-out, elevator lobbies, coffee shops and dining rooms, and taxi and ridesharing lines;
- Conducting pre-shift meetings virtually or in areas that allow for appropriate physical distance;
- Considering employees' requests for modified duties to minimize their contact with customers and other employees, such as managing inventory rather than working at the concierge desk or managing administrative needs through telework;
- Closing breakrooms, using barriers, or increasing distance between tables and chairs to separate workers and discourage congregating during breaks; or create outdoor break areas with shade covers and seating that ensures physical distancing;

- Screening guests and visitors upon arrival and asking guests to use hand sanitizer and wear a face covering; and
- Prominently displaying signs outlining proper face covering usage and current physical distancing practices in use throughout the property.

NATIONAL

Moratorium Extended for Tenants and Homeowners

The Federal Association of Lenders said that amid the pandemic, the moratorium on evictions and foreclosures will be extended for another two months, so people who cannot pay their rent or mortgage will be protected. Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, lenders who finance most federal home loans, have decided to extend the protection that was put in place until August 31 to avoid evictions of those who cannot pay their rent or mortgage. The moratorium was about to expire on June 30. And with this extension, they explained, they seek to help families who have run out of income, and provide some relief, giving them more time to recover.

Second PPP Loan

Certain small-business owners may be able to apply for a second Paycheck Protection Program loan if a new bill introduced on June 18 becomes law. The legislation, called the [Prioritized Paycheck Protection Program \(P4\) Act](#), would allow businesses with fewer than 100 employees to apply for a second loan if they have used up (or are on pace to exhaust) their first PPP loan and can show a 50% loss in revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Business owners also must show they need the money for payroll and eligible non-payroll costs. Small Business Committee Ranking Member Cardin, Senator Chris Coons and Senator. Jeanne Shaheen introduced the Senate version of the bill. Rep. Angie Craig and Rep. Antonio Delgado introduced the [companion bill](#) in the House. The senators argue some small businesses are still struggling because the shutdown has lasted longer than originally anticipated when Congress put together the program.

Dedicated Tool For Small Businesses

The U.S. Small Business Administration has launched a dedicated online tool for small businesses and nonprofits to be matched with Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs), Minority Depository Institutions (MDIs), Certified Development Companies (CDCs), Farm Credit System lenders, Microlenders, as well as traditional smaller asset size lenders in the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). SBA's [Lender Match](#) is an additional resource for pandemic-affected small businesses who have not applied for or received an approved [PPP loan](#) to connect with lenders. The forgivable PPP loan is emergency relief assistance aimed at sustaining businesses and keeping employees on payroll. Lender Match does not accept Economic Injury Disaster Loan applications. Within two business days after entering their information into the Lender Match platform, a borrower receives an email from lenders who have been matched with them. The borrower can see lenders' requests for them to begin an application. Borrowers are then able to begin the application process directly from the email they receive.

QUESTIONS EKA HAS RECEIVED

What Does California's New Order About Face Coverings Mean For Employers? Are We Expected To Be The Face Covering Police?

The California Department of Public Health [issued guidance](#) broadly mandating that individuals in California wear face coverings in most circumstances. This new state guidance follows face-covering mandates previously issued by many California cities and counties. The state guidance specifies that individuals engaged in work whether at the workplace or offsite must wear face coverings when:

- Interacting with any member of the public in-person,
- Working in a space visited by the public, even if no member of the public is present,
- Working in a space where food is prepared or packaged for sale or distribution,
- Working in or walking through common areas of a business, or
- When driving or operating public transportation, including private car service.

The new guidance provides several exemptions from its requirements. For example, individuals who have a medical condition that prevents them from wearing face-covering or if wearing one would create a risk to the person related to their work. Individuals exempted from wearing a face-covering due to a medical condition who are employed in a job with regular contact with others should wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom, as their condition permits. The state encourages employers to review [industry-specific guidance](#) available regarding the wearing of face coverings and masks. The state also indicates surgical masks (manufactured paper masks) should be reserved for medical personnel, as well as workers in manufacturing, food processing, community/social services, social work, in-home daycare, law enforcement/public safety, and schools. Workers using surgical masks should start every day with a new mask. The guidance states employees in such industries should be provided surgical masks at work. N95 masks, masks that as a respirator that blocks particles, are also reserved for medical personnel and other industries where they are required. As with surgical masks, the guidance states N95 masks should be provided by employers in industries where they are required. California employers should also check city and county orders where they operate to determine if additional requirements apply to their industry.

WHAT WE'RE READING

Decline In New US Virus Deaths May Be Temporary Reprieve

The number of deaths per day from the coronavirus in the U.S. has fallen in recent weeks to the lowest level since late March, even as states increasingly reopen for business. But scientists are deeply afraid the trend may be about to reverse itself. "For now, it's too soon to be reassured that deaths are going down and everything's OK," said Dr. Cyrus Shahpar of Resolve to Save Lives, a nonprofit organization that works to prevent epidemics. To read the full article, click [here](#).

For California's Homeless, CalFresh Is Essential Part of Safety Net

CalFresh, the state's largest means-tested food assistance program, is one of few safety net supports accessible to adults without children who are experiencing homelessness. And because CalFresh benefits typically can be used only to buy groceries or seeds for planting, several counties, including Los Angeles, San Diego and Orange, have obtained the authority to enable elderly, disabled and homeless recipients to buy meals in certain restaurants. To read the full article, click [here](#).

How Bay Area Job Losses During The Coronavirus Crisis And The Great Recession Compare

The coronavirus pandemic has wreaked havoc on the Bay Area's economy, shuttering beloved bars and music venues, pushing formerly high-flying tech companies to lay off hundreds of workers and leading one economist to dub it the Great Recession 2.0. But the current crisis has differed from the 2008-2009 financial crash in some key aspects, including who is bearing the brunt of the job losses. To read the full article, click [here](#).

New COVID-19 Outbreaks Trigger Possibility Of Tighter Restrictions In San Diego County

San Diego County has hit one of three COVID-19 "triggers" that require public health officials to re-examine, and likely modify, the state of businesses and activities currently allowed to resume operation throughout the region. The county's press office said in an email Thursday morning that eight community outbreaks occurred in the seven-day period from Thursday, June 11 through Wednesday, June 17. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Protests Renew Scrutiny Of Detention Practices And COVID-19 Spread

As thousands of demonstrators have been arrested or jailed amid protests over the killing of George Floyd and police brutality, detention practices that increase the risk of spreading the novel coronavirus are back in the spotlight. Attorneys and civil rights groups have filed lawsuits over police tactics against protesters, which have included the use of rubber bullets, pepper spray, tear gas and batons. In Los Angeles, Black Lives Matter activists sued the city's police department in early June alleging that officers had detained 2,600 peaceful protesters in large groups, handcuffing and placing them on buses for hours at a time, without access to food, water or bathrooms. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Early Data Show No Uptick in Covid-19 Transmission From Protests

Early coronavirus testing data from a handful of U.S. cities and states suggest that recent protests against racial injustices haven't yet led to a marked uptick in new cases. Public-health officials warn that the data is still preliminary, however, and protest-related cases could still rise. In Minnesota, where the police killing of George Floyd led to protests there and across the country, 1.8% of test results have come back positive as of Monday among 3,200 protesters who were tested at community sites. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Protest Crowds A Challenge For Tracking Virus Infections

California health officials so far report only a few people who attended protests against police brutality have tested positive for the coronavirus but already they are seeing the futility in trying to track down all in the crowds who could have been infected by them. California was the first state to impose a stay-at-home order and in recent weeks has accelerated the pace of

reopening the economy and loosening restrictions on where people can go. The state's rollback plans were laid with the idea there wouldn't yet be large crowds but after the Minneapolis police killing of George Floyd thousands of protesters have filled the streets in major cities and dozens of smaller locations had crowds above 100. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Coronavirus Pandemic Accelerating With Americas Worst, Warns WHO

The coronavirus pandemic is accelerating, with Thursday's 150,000 new cases the highest in a single day and nearly half of those in the Americas, the World Health Organization (WHO) said. "The world is in a new and dangerous phase," Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a virtual briefing from WHO headquarters in Geneva. "The virus is still spreading fast, it is still deadly, and most people are still susceptible." To read the full article, click [here](#).

Coronavirus Attacks the Lungs. A Federal Agency Just Halted Funding for New Lung Treatment

The shift in strategy also shows that the administration is backing away from the relatively modest funding it has provided so far for treatments that address the severe lung ailments, while continuing support for antiviral therapies that could treat people earlier in the course of the disease. The decision to suspend investment in lung treatments blindsided academic researchers and executives at small biotech companies, who said they spent months pitching their proposals to BARDA, which is a division of the Department of Health and Human Services. To read the full article, click [here](#).

There's A Fight Brewing Over Whether Companies Are Responsible When Workers Get Coronavirus

The next coronavirus relief package could include liability protections for businesses that would shield them from workplace lawsuits. Republicans and trade groups argue that the fear of lawsuits could keep businesses from reopening, while labor groups say liability protections could shield employers who aren't keeping their workers safe. So far, few coronavirus-related lawsuits have been filed in the U.S. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Traveling Again? Leisure And Business Travelers Share Tips To Stay Safe From Coronavirus

For travelers who normally fret about forgetting passports, shaving kits or clean underwear, there is a whole new set of concerns as they prepare to hit the road again after being housebound amid the coronavirus pandemic. With stay-at-home orders being lifted, those who travel frequently for business or pleasure are mapping their own strategies on items and procedures they'll need to stay safe at airports, on planes, in hotels or just trying to get from place to place. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Covid-19 Panel Questions Fed Effort To Help Small Businesses

The Congressional Oversight Commission questioned whether the Federal Reserve's emergency lending facilities have done enough to help smaller companies and workers during the coronavirus crisis, in a report released Thursday. The commission's second report on the Fed and Treasury Department's handling of the \$500 billion Congress provided in March to inject liquidity into the economy applauded the help for large corporations but worried that others were being left behind. To read the full article, click [here](#).

OPM: Some Feds' Leave Canceled Because Of COVID-19 Will Be Restored

The Office of Personnel Management on Thursday announced that it is planning to issue regulations to allow agencies to restore federal employees' so-called "use or lose" annual leave that was canceled so they could work on the response to the coronavirus pandemic. Ordinarily, federal workers can only carry over so much annual leave from year to year. Any unused leave over that cap is forfeited at the end of the year. Leave that is lost at the end of a year can only be restored to federal workers if it was forfeited due to an administrative error, an employee being ill, or if leave was canceled due to an "exigency of the public business." To read the full article, click [here](#).

Small Business Administration And Treasury Shift Course, Will Disclose PPP Borrowers Over \$150,000

The Small Business Administration and Treasury Department, under [withering criticism for lack of transparency](#), shifted course Friday and announced they would disclose details of borrowers in the Paycheck Protection Program. The SBA, which manages the \$660 billion emergency lending program, will disclose business names, addresses, loan amount ranges and demographic data, among other things, as part of an agreement with bipartisan lawmakers on Capitol Hill, the SBA and Treasury announced in a joint statement. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Cruise Industry Announces US Sailing Suspension Extended Until September 15

Cruise Lines International Association, the leading trade organization for the global ocean-going cruise industry, says its member cruise lines have voluntarily extended the suspension of U.S. cruise operations until September 15 amid coronavirus concerns. To read the full article, click [here](#).

When he tested positive for coronavirus, he prepared for 2 weeks of misery. Months later, he was still sick.

Scott Krakower started getting the chills and sweats at his Long Island home in mid-April. He thought it was a cold, until he couldn't taste anything. Once the coronavirus test came back positive, Krakower, a medical expert in child and adolescent psychiatry, prepared himself for two weeks of misery. But now, almost three months later, he still gets those chills. He also has a cough, shortness of breath and trouble eating and swallowing. Krakower, 40, is part of a growing group of COVID-19 patients who are suffering from its symptoms for weeks, and even months, after the standard recovery time. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Inside the Trump Administration's Decision to Leave the World Health Organization

Despite Trump's declared exit from the WHO, officials continued working toward reforms and to prevent withdrawal. This week, they were told they must justify any cooperation with the WHO on the grounds of national security and public health safety. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Top Members of Coronavirus Task Force Advised Against Trump's Tulsa Rally

Leading members of the coronavirus task force warned White House officials about the health risks of holding large-scale indoor campaign rallies and advised against the mass gatherings, according to two people familiar with the discussions. Dr. Anthony Fauci, the nation's top infectious disease expert, and task force response coordinator Dr. Deborah Birx both vocalized concerns internally in the last week about the safety of holding a rally with as many as 19,000 of people in an enclosed arena in Tulsa, Oklahoma on Saturday. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Nevada Casino Virus Protocols Similar To Closed Arizona Casinos

Three Arizona casinos have gone dark once again. Gila River Gaming Enterprises announced the closures Thursday, citing a spike in COVID-19 cases in Arizona. They had been open less than five weeks and had been operating with health and safety protocols nearly identical to those in Nevada casinos. Both states' protocols pale in comparison with other gaming markets, such as Massachusetts and California. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Fed Adds Coronavirus Scenarios To This Year's Bank Stress Tests

Historically unique financial conditions brought on by the coronavirus have changed the way the Federal Reserve is conducting its stress tests for banks this year. In addition to the usual rigors that measure how well institutions are prepared for sharp downturns, the Fed said Friday it is adding three new scenarios this year. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Another Consequence Of The Pandemic: A Nationwide Shortage Of Coin

Masks were the first to go. Then toilet paper flew off shelves. And while Americans are being nickel-and-dimed with coronavirus-related costs in a shaky economy, the latest national shortage includes, well, nickels and dimes. There's a coin shortage in the US. "What's happened is that, with the partial closure of the economy, the flow of coins through the economy has gotten all — it's kind of stopped," Federal Reserve chairman Jerome Powell said during a virtual hearing with the House Financial Services Committee. To read the full article, click [here](#).

California's Vacation Industry Is Open For Business. Proceed With Caution.

Three months after the stay-at-home order was issued, Californians are slowly emerging from their homes and traveling for short vacations and road trips. Epidemiologists warn that it could cause infections to spike in some areas. To read the full article, click [here](#).

DHS Secretary Says U.S. Is 'Doing A Great Job' At Reopening Despite Coronavirus Spikes

Acting Homeland Security Secretary Chad Wolf said Sunday that the U.S. is doing a "great job" at reopening during the coronavirus pandemic, even as rising caseloads across the country have prompted concern from public health officials. In an interview on NBC News' "Meet the Press," Wolf praised the "dramatic steps" he said President Donald Trump took to slow the spread of the virus. And he said guidance from the White House coronavirus task force is helping put states in positions to open "in a safe and reasonable way." To read the full article, click [here](#).

FDA Warns Of Hand Sanitizers Containing Toxic Chemicals

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is asking consumers to stop using hand sanitizers manufactured by a company from Mexico that could contain a potentially toxic substance. The FDA issued an advisory for 9 sanitizers from Eskbiochem SA de CV in Mexico that could contain the potential presence of methanol (wood alcohol), a substance that can be toxic when absorbed through the skin or ingested. 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.