PRESS RELEASE
March 17, 2020

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BARS, NIGHTCLUBS, PUBS, WINERIES AND BREWERIES SHOULDN’T CLOSE IMMEDIATELY; RESTAURANTS SHOULD MOVE TO TAKE-OUT / DELIVERY

CDPH, Governor Newsom Issue Guidance for Food Facilities

(SANTA BARBARA, Calif.) – Santa Barbara County bars, nightclubs, pubs, breweries and wineries should immediately close to the public under new guidance issued by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) on Tuesday. Restaurants and other food facilities offering on-site dining should immediately transition to only offering delivery or take-out service as part of the public health effort to slow the spread of coronavirus disease.

The Santa Barbara County Public Health Department is urging local bars nightclubs, pubs, breweries, and wineries to comply with this request immediately and to cancel any planned St. Patrick’s Day celebrations or events.

The goal of the guidance is to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in communities. Bars, nightclubs, restaurants, and other food facilities are locations where people from many parts of the community gather, increasing the chances of transmitting the virus that causes coronavirus disease. While many bars, nightclubs and pubs traditionally hold events for St. Patrick’s Day, these are particularly dangerous at this point in the coronavirus pandemic, as they could result in widespread transmission of the disease in Santa Barbara County.

Grocery stores, markets and activities such Foodbank distribution sites are not being asked to close at this time as they provide critical services to the community. CDPH has provided social distancing guidance for these operations, such as ensuring at least 6 feet of space between groups of unrelated people while shopping or standing in line.

For more information or the complete guidance issued by CDPH, click here.

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