



Office of The Grand Secretary
Masonic Temple



**THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF DELAWARE**

818 MARKET STREET
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19801-3077
(302) 652-4614
FAX (302) 652-4059

DIRECTIVE No. 2
(Update For Masonic Activities Effective June 1, 2020)

Brethren: Unfortunately, this Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to be problematic and has caused all of us to alter the way we do things with our families, our businesses, and our many masonic activities. After consulting with your Elected Grand Lodge Officers, several Past Grand Masters, and after reviewing the current Phase I directives from Governor Carney as related to the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the metered opening of our state, I would like to update everyone on Directives that will take effect as of June 1, 2020:

1. A requirement of the Phase I allows social gatherings with up to 30% of fire code occupancy, provided safe social distancing, face coverings, and recommended sanitization steps are strictly followed. However, Phase I also emphasizes that social settings of more than ten (10) people, where appropriate distancing may not be practical, must be avoided.
2. Another requirement of the Governor's Phase I Reopening of Delaware, states that ALL VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS should continue to shelter in place; and as you are aware, a large number of our membership falls into this category.
3. Other recommended practices as part of the Phase I Reopening and the CDC Recommendations includes the following: (a) Individuals must regularly wash their hands (b) Hand Sanitizer should be made available (c) All surfaces that are typically touched must be sanitized ie: door knobs, chair arms, desks, gavels, columns, surfaces of doors where people may normally push on the door, tables, chairs, rest rooms, etc. (d) Signs should be posted on how to stop the spread of COVID-19 (example attached).

Effective June 1, 2020, "Limited" Masonic Activities may resume, as long as the activity falls within the guidelines established by the State of Delaware, Governor's Phase I Reopening of Delaware, and any federal or local requirements. Lodges and other masonic bodies may choose not to reopen during Phase I, and that is their option. If a lodge or other masonic body chooses to maintain ten (10) or fewer people for a masonic activity or if lodges or other masonic bodies chooses to go with up to the 30% of fire code occupancy for their masonic event, they should be very mindful to follow the strict guidelines that require face masks, strict social distancing, and recommended sanitization practices.

Whatever path the lodge or any other masonic body chooses to follow, please be mindful of your members who are in the "Vulnerable Individuals" category, and remember that we should be mindful of the safety of our members and their families, as our first concern.

Private Functions booked/scheduled to be held in any Masonic Hall are to be handled by the individual Hall Company. Hall Companies are strongly encouraged to follow the most conservative guidelines available from leading global and local health authorities such as the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the Governor's guidance for the Phase I Reopening of Delaware as related to the proper steps to help control the spread of this Coronavirus (COVID-19). Always abide by national, state, and local gathering restrictions, as directed by the President and/or the Governor of the State of Delaware.

Degree Work

The Grand Lodge Office of the Grand Secretary has received numerous calls concerning our degree conferrals and how to maintain conformance with the latest directives as related to the Coronavirus situation and the federal, state, and local government restrictions. I have asked the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education, Leadership, and Work (including your Grand Instructors) to review our degree ritual and the Coronavirus restrictions, and see if temporary modifications can be made to our ritual, so that we can continue our degree conferrals and maintain conformance to the many restrictions this Coronavirus pandemic has caused. As soon as we can review any recommendations from this committee and get approval from any other committee that is required, the approved recommended changes will be shared with all of our lodges throughout the state.

Finally, if our lodges and our other Appendant & Concordant Bodies desire to begin to open limited masonic activities, there are several options to consider, and each lodge and/or Appendant/Concordant Body must weigh all options and decide what is best for them. The opening of "**Limited Masonic Activities**" is approved, effective June 1, 2020, and this Directive will remain in effect until further directed. If any lodge or Appendant/Concordant Body chooses to begin to open masonic activities, all of the Governor's Phase I restrictions for the Reopening of Delaware must be strictly followed, and all masonic related activities must adhere to these same restrictions.

As we enter into Phase II or any other Phase during this Coronavirus pandemic, our situation in relation to masonic activities here in Delaware will be re-evaluated, and our lodges, Appendant, and Concordant Bodies notified accordingly.

Again, please be reminded that this is a time for us to pay particular attention to our brethren who may be in need and who may require assistance. If you are worried about a fellow member or his family, please keep in contact with them via telephone, text, or email. Let us remember our masonic obligations to relieve the distressed, and to aid with the health and welfare of our fellow brothers. Please keep an eye on each other and be ready to exercise our masonic benevolence where and when we are able.

In Conclusion, I hereby Order that this Directive is to be distributed to all of our members as expeditiously as possible, including the membership of our Appendant & Concordant Bodies. Additionally, this **Directive** shall be entered in full upon the Minutes of the Lodge, Appendant or Concordant Body thereof, during the next allowable Stated Communication of the Lodge, Appendant or Concordant Body.



Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand Lodge of Delaware this 29th day of May, 2020 AD, 6020 AL.

Handwritten signature of Evan R. Moody in black ink.

M.: W.: Evan R. Moody
Grand Master

Handwritten signature of Glenn F. Davis, Sr. in black ink.

M.: W.: Glenn F. Davis, Sr., PGM
Grand Secretary

NOTE: Several pages of Governor Carney's Delaware's Reopening Phase I are attached to this Directive No. 2. To see the full text of Governor Carney's Delaware's Reopening Phase I, please go to the following link:

https://governor.delaware.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/24/2020/05/Delaware-Economic-Reopening-Guidance-Phase-1-Revised_05202020.pdf

HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

*Practice Social Distancing



*Face Masks Required



*Wash Hands and/or Use Hand Sanitizer

DELAWARE'S REOPENING

GOVERNOR JOHN CARNEY
de.gov/economy



PART 1: GENERAL GUIDANCE

The following is general guidance that applies to all individuals and businesses during the Phase 1 reopening. During this phase, strict social distancing must be observed. Great care must still be paid to limit the spread of the virus in order to prevent outbreaks because infection rates, while slowing, remain high. This broad guidance is as follows:

GENERAL GUIDANCE: INDIVIDUALS

- **Cloth face coverings must be worn** in accordance with the State of Emergency Order.
- Individuals must regularly **wash their hands** according to Division of Public Health guidance, and must stay home when sick.
- At all times, individuals who are not part of a household should **maximize physical distance from others and remain six (6) feet apart**.
- **All individuals, WHEN IN PUBLIC** (e.g., parks, outdoor recreation areas, shopping areas), **should maximize physical distance from others**. Social settings of more than 10 people, where appropriate distancing may not be practical, must be avoided (e.g. receptions, trade shows).
- The **number of individuals in a particular location will be strictly controlled** in order to make sure that safe social distancing is maintained. Some of these limits are addressed for individual industries in the industry guidance, but where it is not otherwise stated, the upper limit is 30% of fire code occupancy (excluding staff).
- **Interstate travel restrictions** and the **fourteen (14) day self-quarantine requirements** of the State of Emergency Orders remain in place.
- Non-essential travel should be **avoided**.
- **ALL VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS** should continue to shelter in place. Members of households with vulnerable residents should be aware that by returning to work or other environments where distancing is not practical, they could carry the virus back home. Precautions should be taken to isolate from vulnerable residents.

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GENERAL GUIDANCE: BUSINESSES

- Employers should **close COMMON AREAS** where personnel are likely to congregate and interact, or enforce strict social distancing protocols.
- **Employees and customers have a responsibility to self-quarantine if they have a reason to expect that they may be ill or may have come into contact with COVID-19.** Employees who are symptomatic must not physically return to work until cleared by DPH or their medical provider.
- Employers are encouraged to **continue to have staff work from home whenever possible.** Employees who have been working from home throughout this crisis should continue working from home unless there is a substantive change to business operations in Phase 1 (e.g. a business was closed, but now it's open).
- **All surfaces touched by customers**, including doors, restrooms, and point of sale infrastructure **must be disinfected using an EPA-approved disinfectant** every 15 minutes to 2 hours.
- All employees required to go to work should perform a daily health check as **prescribed by the Delaware Division of Public Health.**
- All employees should **wash hands regularly with soap and water throughout the work day, and in particular after any time they come into contact with a customer.** Hand sanitizer should be used to supplement hand washing throughout the day. Employees must also **social distance from each other while working.** This can be accomplished through spacing or moving workstations, staggering shifts or other means.
- Businesses must make **hand sanitizer or handwashing stations readily available for all employees and customers.**
- Downtime should be given between shifts and after closing for **thorough cleanings of an establishment** at a minimum after each day.
- Employers should **post signs on how to stop the spread of COVID-19, hand hygiene, and properly wear a cloth face covering.**

Part 2: Industry Guidance

The following is guidance for certain areas of the Delaware economy where risk of transmission may be high due to number of people, distance or other factors. Broadly, this refers to areas like public entertainment, dining, retail, personal care services, and other consumer facing segments. Governor Carney appointed several Sector Captains to work with both industry leaders and public health officials to develop this specific guidance. If a business is unsure if it falls into one of these industries, it should send an email to covid19faq@delaware.gov. The Division of Small Business shall have the discretion to make additions, amendments, clarifications, exceptions, and exclusions to this Phase 1 Reopening Plan.

Q&A

What is a gathering?

- A gathering refers to social settings where appropriate social distancing (six feet separation) may not be practical, such as receptions, trade shows, or similar events. The gathering limits do not apply to the number of people in a facility at any one time, for instance a retail store may have more than ten people and not be considered a gathering.

Who qualifies as a vulnerable individual?

- Individuals over the age of 65 or with an underlying health condition qualify as vulnerable and should continue to shelter in place at this time. This includes people with a chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma, people with a serious heart condition, people who are immunocompromised (many conditions can cause a person to be immunocompromised, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications), people with severe obesity (body mass index of 40 or higher), and people with diabetes. Individuals who regularly come into close contact with these vulnerable populations should also take enhanced precautions.

DELAWARE'S REOPENING

PHASE 1:

TARGET: JUNE 1, 2020

Food & Drink Establishments



30% capacity; Face covering required; Strict social distancing
Reservation-only dining; delivery and takeout available; bars closed; no self-service

Arts & Culture



30% capacity; Face covering required; Strict social distancing

Retail



30% of fire code occupancy; Face covering required; Strict social distancing

Malls



30% of fire code occupancy limit; Face covering required; Strict social distancing; Food and drink facilities must follow food and drink industry guidelines

Barber Shops, Hair Salons, Tanning Salon



30% of fire code occupancy limit; Appointment-only; Face covering required; Social distancing when feasible

Exercise Facilities



30% of fire code occupancy limit; Face covering required; Strict social distancing; Classes under 10 people allowed; Thorough cleaning and disinfecting

Realty



Resume open houses with no more than 10 individuals; Face covering required; Social distancing; Proper disinfecting of property

Casinos



Create and submit reopening plan to State Lottery and DPH; Thorough cleaning and disinfecting; employee training; 30% of fire code occupancy limit; gaming machines must be kept at least 8 ft. apart

Racetracks



Create and submit facility specific plan to DPH and Dept. of Ag; No automobile racing in Phase 1; No fans permitted to attend races; Staff must be socially distanced

Parks and Recreation



Remain open or reopen with modifications to ensure social distancing; No gatherings or events; Properly disinfect any equipment

Delaware's Reopening: Phase 1

PHASE 1:

Child Care



Must be designated as an Emergency Child Care Site; Open for employees of essential and/or reopened businesses

Youth Sports



No-contact sports and physical activities for children may resume; Strict social distancing; Groups limited to 10; Coaches and staff must wear face coverings; No competitions

Places of Worship



See ***additional guidance*** released on May 18.

School-based Instruction



Closed

Close Contact Personal Services



Closed (Tattoo parlors, massage therapy services, nail salons, spas, facials, waxing services and similar; May be provided if following salon/barber guidance if health of the client is jeopardized without access to the service.)

Summer Camps



Closed

Water Parks



Closed

Convention Centers and Meeting Facilities



Closed

Sporting Facilities and Venues



Closed (Arcades, bowling alleys, indoor skating rinks, martial arts studios, dance studios, indoor tennis and similar indoor athletic facilities)

Children's Play Areas



Closed (Indoor children's play areas, including softscape or hardscape playground facilities, trampoline parks, and children's museums)

As part of Delaware's rolling reopening, restrictions and modifications may change. The latest document and list will be published on de.gov/economy.