



PRESS RELEASE

June 29, 2020

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER
(805) 696-1188
eocpiostaff@countyofsb.org

HEALTH OFFICER ORDER ISSUED TO CLOSE BARS IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

(SANTA BARBARA, Calif.) – Santa Barbara County Health Officer, Dr. Henning Ansorg has issued a health officer order mandating the closure of local bars at the recommendation of the California Department of Public Health. This guidance is effective at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, July 1, 2020. This Order will continue until 5 p.m. on July 26, 2020 or until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing.

The following guidelines must be followed:

- Brewpubs, breweries, bars, and pubs, should close unless they are offering sit-down, dine-in meals. Alcohol may only be sold in the same transaction as a meal.
- Dine-in restaurants, brewpubs, breweries, bars, and pubs that provide sit-down meals should follow the [dine-in restaurant guidance](#) and should continue to encourage takeout and delivery service whenever possible.
- Brewpubs, breweries, bars, and pubs that do not provide sit-down meals, but wish to operate under this Order must obtain an Emergency Food Permit.

Wineries and tasting rooms may remain open at this time. Additional guidance and the full health officer order can be found [here](#).

“We have made the decision to close bars to be in compliance with State guidance, especially since our case count continues to rise day by day. This action, particularly in anticipation of the holiday weekend, is a proactive measure to curb the spread of COVID-19 locally,” said Dr. Henning Ansorg. “We have to keep each other safe during this time. Changing our habits by making physical distancing and wearing a face covering part of our daily routines will save lives.”

This health officer order is closing bars due to the findings that physical movement of people within bars, the duration of time spent in the establishment, and the degree of social mixing within individuals and groups are all greater in these settings.

More information about the COVID-19 response locally, visit www.publichealthsb.org or call the County Call Center at 1(833) – 688 – 5551.

-30-

Stay Connected:

County Public Health: www.PublicHealthSBC.org, [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)
County of Santa Barbara: www.CountyofSB.org, [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#)
Santa Barbara County Call Center: (833) 688-5551
Community Wellness Team Information and Referral Line: (805) 364-2750