



**COUNTY OF DEL NORTE**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
PUBLIC HEALTH BRANCH

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SUBJECT:** To Del Norte Residents and Business Owners;

As you probably have all heard, last Friday's press release from the State Health Department (CDPH) and the Governor, allow further relaxation of businesses for counties such as ours. Beginning June 19th, businesses that conduct Massage, Tattoos, and Facial and Manicure services may resume, provided the local health department has certified that the county has the continued resources to allow further relaxation of restrictions. Facial and Manicure services include a long list of items that will now be allowed, some of which involve customers not wearing masks.

I think that we are still in a pretty good profile, and many of these services are in shops that are already open for other, related services, so this particular relaxation does not seem like a big step. We can proceed on the Governor's schedule, but as before, these businesses need to submit a plan for these new practices, including shops that have already opened for hair services, for example. We have upgraded our business planning document, and although they are a couple of pages longer, they are much easier to use. Also as before, there is a guidance document published by CDPH that covers Personal Care Services, and we expect everyone in these businesses to read and use this document, and understand the goals of the recommendations from CDPH. You can view the State's Industry Guidance at: <https://covid19.ca.gov/pdf/expanded-personal-services.pdf>. These guidance documents are the standard that we are all being held to, and will be the reference going forward. The CDPH web pages that have these documents now include guidance's for all types of services and industries, including those that have been open throughout the shutdown. We strongly encourage everyone involved in running a business to check these guidelines out, as there is a lot of useful information, even for those who have been taking prevention steps about coronavirus for months now.

There is one other item that I want to make clear for the business owners of salons that do facials of all kinds, having a customer remove their face covering for any purpose puts the stylist at increased risk. We are recommending that for these encounters, salon owners and stylists consider using an N95 respirator, rather than a typical cloth mask. A respirator is designed to protect the user more than it protects others, and for an encounter with an unmasked customer, the extra protection may be well worth the effort. Respirators can be safely reused if allowed to sit unused for 5 days. There is a common-sense approach to reusing respirators, just put them in a paper bag so they can "breathe" and dry out, and they can be safely reused 5 days later. Coronavirus will not last that long on a respirator.

The other topic that is of importance to us all is that, as we go forward into this next phase of the epidemic: It is critical that we be able to track the virus going from person to person. We are asking and

expecting that businesses keep a log of their customers, with names and phone numbers. If we track a case of a positive person, we need to know who they have been in contact with, even potential contacts, and sometimes that will be customers in a store or salon or another public place. We are setting this as a local standard, and asking that every business that deals with the public come up with a way of doing this. Keeping a log of employees is also part of this, but most businesses know how to do that already. Keeping track of customers, especially with contact information, is a bit more of a challenge.

And lastly, there are a couple of other topics that I wanted to mention this week. Many people have also realized that guidance for schools and day camps have been published, and there are a lot of requests about when and how student-athletes can resume training, especially strength training. We are aware of all these issues and are working on them. The biggest unanswered question pertaining to all of these is the size of groups that are allowed (outside of family groups) in public settings, especially outdoors. We are all waiting on this decision, as it affects so many things, especially having to do with kids. In a lot of ways, our children have had to make the biggest sacrifices in this pandemic, and getting direction on how to safely get them back together this summer is a premium. We don't think there is going to be much of a season for summer sports for kids, but getting them back on track for the fall and winter is important, and figuring a way to do that safely is key. We do think that many camps not related to sports activities have a good chance of running over the summer. We are asking everyone to be patient a little longer.

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