In re: 2019-Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

STANDING COMMISSIONER'S QUARANTINE ORDER FOR PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH A CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19 OR HAVE TRAVELED TO A COUNTRY DESIGNATED AS HAVING A LEVEL 2 OR HIGHER HEALTH NOTICE BY THE CLOSES FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC) OR TRAVELED TO A STATE OTHER THAN THOSE CONTIGUOUS TO NEW YORK

Pursuant to Section 2100 of the Public Health Law

WHEREAS, 2019 novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) has been declared a communicable disease by the New York State Health Commissioner pursuant to §2.1(a) of the New York State Sanitary Code [10 NYCRR Chapter 1], and a reportable condition to the Erie County Department of Health (the "Department") pursuant to §2101 of the New York State Public Health Law; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health has issued containment guidance which mandates the quarantine of individuals who have been in close contact (within 6 feet for more than ten minutes) of a confirmed case of COVID-19 or have traveled to a country designated as having a Level 2, Level 3 or Level 4 Health Notice by the CDC or traveled to a state other than those contiguous to New York; and

WHEREAS, such containment guidance further directs local health departments to consider other factors such as proximity of contact and duration of exposure when deciding whether an exposure resulted in a close contact and therefore warrants mandatory quarantine; and

WHEREAS, the Department has received a report, pursuant to §2.10 of the State Sanitary Code and to §2101 of the New York State Public Health Law, that you have come in close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case or have traveled to a country designated as having a Level 2, Level 3 or Level 4 Health Notice by the CDC or traveled to a state other than those contiguous to New York.

WHEREAS, pursuant to §2100 and §2120 of the New York State Public Health Law and §2.6 of the State Sanitary Code, the Department is authorized to take such steps as may be necessary to mitigate morbidity and mortality and to prevent transmission of disease to other persons; and

WHEREAS, the Department has determined that, in order to mitigate morbidity and mortality from COVID-19, that you must be confined to your home under such conditions as will prevent transmission of COVID-19 to others.
THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that you remain within the premises of your home and follow the precautions and directions specified in the attached COVID-19 QUARANTINE INSTRUCTIONS (the "INSTRUCTIONS"). You may not leave these premises for any reason, including to go to work, or to attend school, unless authorized by the Department or unless your employer deems you an essential worker and then you can go to work and upon leaving work you must return directly home; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that you may not have direct personal contact with other persons who do not reside in your home except as authorized by the Department; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that you shall cooperate with the Department’s efforts to monitor your compliance with this Order and the infection control measures outlined on the attached INSTRUCTIONS.

This Order shall remain in effect until ten (10) days after your last date of exposure to a positive COVID-19 case or from the last day you were in a CDC Level 2, Level 3 or Level 4 Health Notice country (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notices.html) or from the last day you were in a state other than those contiguous to New York and have remained free of COVID-19 symptoms.

This Order is the final administrative determination of the County of Erie in this matter. You may challenge the final determination by commencing a proceeding in the New York State Supreme Court pursuant to Article 78 of the New York State Civil Practice Law and Rules.

Gale R. Burstein, MD, MPH, FAAP
Commissioner of Health

NOTE - You have the right to be represented by a lawyer regarding this quarantine order. You may directly contact a lawyer of your choice to represent you.

WARNING
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER MAY SUBJECT YOU TO FURTHER ACTION BY THE COMMISSIONER, INCLUDING INVOLUNTARY DETENTION IN AN APPROPRIATE FACILITY OR SUCH OTHER ACTION AS THE COMMISSIONER MAY DEEM NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE HEALTH OF OTHERS. WILLFUL VIOLATION OF OR REFUSAL TO COMPLY WITH A HEALTH ORDER IS A MISDEMEANOR UNDER NEW YORK PUBLIC HEALTH LAW SECTION 12-B.
COVID-19 Quarantine Instructions

Instructions for a Quarantined Individual

• The individual will remain in quarantine until ten (10) days from their last day of exposure to a positive COVID-19 case or from their last day they have been in a country designated as having a Level 2, Level 3 or Level 4 Health Notice by the CDC or from their last day they have been in a state other than those contiguous to New York and have remained free of COVID-19 symptoms. Symptoms of COVID-19 include but are not limited to fever, cough, and shortness of breath.

• The individual must not leave their home/property where they are being quarantined. You are allowed to walk outside on your property but should not come within six feet of others.

• The individual must be situated in a separate room with separate bathroom facilities for each individual or family group. Access to a sink with soap, water, and paper towels is necessary. Cleaning supplies (e.g. household cleaning wipes, bleach) must be provided in any shared bathroom.

• The individual must have a way to self-isolate from household members as soon as fever or other symptoms develop, in a separate room with a door. Given that an individual might become ill while sleeping; the individual must sleep in a separate bedroom from household members.

• If an individual sharing a bathroom becomes symptomatic, all others sharing the bathroom will be considered exposed persons until the symptomatic individual is appropriately evaluated and cleared.

• The individual will wear a mask when in the same room with other persons. If the individual cannot wear a mask, others in the same room must wear a mask.

• The individual’s bed linens, towels, and personal clothing must not be shared with other members of the household.

• Food must be delivered to the individual’s room.

• Individuals must have a supply of face masks to put on if they become symptomatic.

• Garbage must be bagged and left outside the door of each of the rooms for routine pick up. Special handling is not required.

• Individuals should self-monitor daily for fever and other symptoms of COVID-19 throughout the duration of the quarantine period. An Erie County Department of Health employee may contact the individual once a day for temperature and symptoms.

• If the individual begins to experience COVID-19 symptoms and requires medical assistance, the individual must notify the medical facility prior to arriving at the facility.

The individual or their legal guardian may contact the Erie County Department of Health to seek clarification of or further explanation of the conditions contained in any part of this agreement.

Erie County Department of Health
Office of Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance

Updated 12/29/2020