



Stronger Counties. Stronger Ohio.

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Cheryl Subler, Executive Director

March 16, 2020

TO: ALL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY EXECUTIVES, COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS,
COUNTY ADMINISTRATORS, AND COUNTY CLERKS

FROM: CHERYL SUBLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
RACHEL MASSOUD, POLICY ANALYST

RE: MARCH 16, 2020 COVID-19 UPDATES

Gov. DeWine Press Conference

Today, Gov. DeWine held another press conference regarding the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Ohio now has 50 confirmed cases in 12 counties.

Gov. DeWine and Secretary of State LaRose announced that they will request the primary election scheduled for March 17th to be delayed until June 2nd. The change will be accomplished through a lawsuit filed in Franklin County. If the delay occurs as expected, any individual who has not voted can request an absentee ballot by mail and return it by mail in the interim. No in-person voting will occur until June 2nd.

A video of the governor's March 16th press conference can be found [here](#). The administration plans to continue daily press briefings at 2 pm. Press conferences can be viewed on www.ohiochannel.org.

Chief Justice O'Connor Letter

Ohio Supreme Court Justice Maureen O'Connor sent [this letter](#) to Ohio's judges on Friday. Courts have been advised that they must remain open but have the latitude to adjust their dockets in a way that reduces the number of people that need to come to the courthouse. Commissioners will have to work with their courts to appropriately meet needs regarding building access and security.

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: [What emergency authority do counties have to do purchasing? Can a county extend blanket purchasing orders during an emergency?](#)

Answer: Please see the answer to this question [here](#). In this document, Jon Honeck details current ORC language on purchasing. If there are changes you would like seen to purchasing law due to COVID-19, please contact Jon Honeck (jhoneck@ccao.org) or Adam Schwiebert (aschwiebert@ccao.org).

CORSA Remote Work Cybersecurity Memo

CORSA released a [Risk Control Service Bulletin](#) regarding cybersecurity considerations when working home. The memo can be found [here](#).



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OCCO Webinar Friday March 20th on Employer FAQs

OCCO is offering a webinar this Friday, March 20th at 1:00 p.m. on employer FAQs relating to COVID-19. COVID-19 is and will be a major disruption to employers. This webinar will address ADA, FMLA, overtime laws, union contracts, and human resources issues and will provide guidance to employers on how to respond and to prepare for the current and anticipated issues. The webinar will be presented by Jonathan Downes, Attorney, Zashin & Rich.

[Click here](#) to register for this timely educational opportunity. If you are unable to register to the link above, please email [Nedra Benson](mailto:nbenson@ccao.org), nbenson@ccao.org, CCAO administrative professional, and provide her with your email address.

Sample County Policies and Resolutions

[Fairfield County Actions taken for county-owned building usage](#)

[Fairfield County COVID-19 Precautionary Measures County Update](#)

[Delaware County Resolution granting authority to the county administrator related to COVID-19](#)

County Feedback Requested

As the state and counties continue to develop their COVID-19 response plans, we highly encourage counties to share with CCAO any challenges or barriers they are facing in crafting or executing their COVID-19 mitigation strategies. CCAO remains in communication with state policymakers about how the state and counties can partner together while facing this challenge. Your feedback is instrumental in formulating our recommendations. **Please send any challenges, barriers, questions, etc. your county is experiencing to Adam Schwiebert at aschwiebert@ccao.org.**

CCAO/CORSA/CEBCO Bi-weekly COVID-19 Briefing Call

CCAO, CORSA, and CEBCO will host a biweekly COVID-19 briefing call for members every Monday and Thursday at 3:30 p.m. The call-in information is as follows:

**Dial 1-877-273-4202
Access code 889-229-624**

These calls will serve as a way for us to share information and answer questions from counties, as well as provide a space for our members to discuss their best practices if they wish. If you know you have a question that you would like answered, please send it to Adam Schwiebert (aschwiebert@ccao.org) in advance to give staff some time to research the answer.

Other Resources

[Director Acton Order to Limit Access to Ohio's Jails and Detention Facilities](#)

[President's Coronavirus Guidelines For America: 15 Days to Slow the Spread](#)

Visit <https://ccao.org/resources/coronavirus-updates/> for updates and previous memos. As a reminder, current information from the Ohio Department of Health can be found at www.coronavirus.ohio.gov. If you have

questions regarding this memo or best practice suggestions relating to COVID-19, please contact Rachel Massoud, policy analyst, at 614-220-7996 or rmassoud@ccao.org.