County of Imperial
Amended Order of the Health Officer

Pursuant to sections 101040, 120175, and 120175.5(b) of the California Health and Safety Code, the Imperial County Health Officer (“Health Officer”) hereby amends the Health Officer Order dated August 30, 2020. The Health Officer ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, on August 28, 2020 the Acting State Public Health Officer for the state of California (“State”) issued a Statewide Public Health Officer Order (“August 28th Order”), which went into effect August 31, 2020, and superseded the July 13, 2020 State Public Health Officer Order; and

WHEREAS, the August 28th Order created a new framework for the reopening of businesses under COVID-19, and has been designated California’s Plan for Reducing COVID-19 and Adjusting Permitted Sector Activities to Keep Californians Healthy and Safe, also referred to as the Blueprint for a Safer Economy; and

WHEREAS, in response to the August 28th Order, the Health Officer issued a new Health Officer Order dated August 30, 2020, (“August 30th Order”) in order to: (1) align the County’s reopening criteria with those specified within the State’s Blueprint for a Safer Economy; (2) protect the health and safety of all residents and visitors of the County; and (3) ensure that the County does not experience a resurgence in COVID-19 positive cases; and

WHEREAS, on September 22, 2020 the Health Officer amended the August 30th Order (“September 22nd Amendment”) to incorporate updates to State industry guidelines for nails salons and electrologists; and

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2020, the State issued an update to its Guidance for Private Gatherings, which allows for up to three (3) households to participate in a private gathering, subject to certain conditions and restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the State’s Guidance for Private Gatherings is not reflected within the Health Officer’s August 30th Order, or the September 22nd Amendment. Consequently, an additional amendment to the August 30th Order is required.

THEREFORE, effective 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 10, 2020, and continuing until rescinded, the following will be in effect for the County of Imperial:

1. Paragraph 4(d) of the August 30th Order is hereby deleted and replaced with the following conditions:

   a. Gatherings of individuals, of any size, shall only be permitted as expressly provided within this Order.
b. Individuals gathering for the provision of services, as permitted under this Order, shall maintain a minimum of six (6) feet from others at all times whenever possible. Additionally, individuals gathering for the provision of services shall wear face coverings at all times, unless an individual falls within one of the exceptions outlined in the CDPH Face Covering Order.

c. Private gatherings of up to three (3) households are permitted in accordance with the State’s Guidance for Private Gatherings, and subject to the following additional restrictions:

   i. No more than sixteen (16) individuals shall be permitted to attend any private gathering located within the cities and the unincorporated areas of the County of Imperial.

   ii. Singing, chanting, shouting, and the playing of wind instruments (any instrument played by the mouth, such as a trumpet or clarinet) are prohibited during any private gathering.

2. All other terms and conditions of the August 30th Order, and the September 22nd Amendment, shall remain in full force and effect.

3. To protect the public’s health, the Health Officer may take additional action(s) for failure to comply with this Order. Violation of this Order is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment, fine or both under sections 120295 et seq. of the California Health and Safety Code. Further, pursuant to sections 26602 and 41601 of the California Government Code, and section 101029 of the California Health and Safety Code, the Health Officer requests that the Sheriff and the Chiefs of Police in all cities located in the County ensure compliance with and enforcement of this Order.

4. This Order shall remain in effect until rescinded.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

Date: October 10, 2020

Stephen Munday, M.D., MPH
Health Officer