



Tohono O'odham Nation
Office of the
Chairman and Vice Chairwoman

Ned Norris Jr. Wavalene M. Saunders
Chairman Vice Chairwoman



Executive Order

No. 2022-02

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, by Executive Order No. 2020-03, the Chairman issued a Declaration of the Tohono O'odham Nation Proclaiming a State of Emergency in response to the nationwide spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, through a series of executive orders, the Chairman established public health measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 on the Nation, which included Stay at Home orders, curfew hours, governmental facility closures, social gathering and public feeding restrictions, wake and funeral guidelines, and mask mandates; and

WHEREAS, in order to support and enforce public health measures during the pandemic, the Legislative Council enacted 4 Tohono O'odham Code Chapter 4 – *Violating a Public Health Measure*, making specific provisions of the Chairman's Executive Orders enforceable by law and subject to civil penalties for violation of those orders. 4 T.O.C. Chapter 4 – Violating a Public Health Measure automatic repeal date was extended to December 31, 2022 by TON Legislative Council Resolution No. 21-475; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 4 T.O.C. Chapter 4, Section 4103 (C), the Chairman has withdrawn several public health measures listed under Section 4104 of the law by issuing and publishing the withdrawals by executive order to the general public; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccines have proven to reduce the risk of contracting the virus and have been made readily available by the Nation to all member 5 years and older and to all those employed on the Nation. The Nation has provided vaccine incentives and education to the public to stress the importance and vaccinations. In addition, the Nation has gone above and beyond to provided education and essential Personal Protective Equipment to the general public and assistance to those effected by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 cases have continued to steadily decrease and remain low throughout the state of Arizona and on the Nation, whereby reducing the risk the virus poses to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Chairman and Vice Chairwoman acknowledge the disruptions COVID-19 has caused to everyday life on the Nation, and extends much gratitude to Nation's members for their unwavering commitment and sacrifices made while doing their part to reduce the spread of COVID-19 over the past two years; and

WHEREAS, after careful consideration and consultation with medical experts, the Chairman has determined that it is safe to continue lifting restrictions to reflect the current state of affairs, and will continue to reassess the state of the Nation on a regular basis, and reduce or increase safety measures in the best interest of the Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the authority vested in the Chairman of the Nation, effective Wednesday, June 1, 2022, the Chairman hereby orders the following:

This Executive Order No. 2022-02, supersedes Executive Order No. 2022-01, and contains all health measures that remain in effect as of the date of this order, and shall remain in effect until lifted by executive order. The orders contained herein, also listed under Section 4104 of 4 T.O.C Chapter 4 – Violating a Public Health Measure, shall continue to be legally enforceable until the law expires or is repealed by the Tohono O’odham Legislative Council.

Section 1. **The Human Resources *Return to Work – Standard Operating Procedures***, and any subsequent revisions, remain in effect; all Executive Branch departments and programs must adhere to the minimum requirements set forth therein. Employees who fail to report to work when assigned are subject to disciplinary action under the Executive Branch Personnel Policies Manual; and

Section 2. **The Tohono O’odham Nation Unified Command *Guidelines: Wakes/Funerals***, and any subsequent revisions, remain the minimum standards for all wakes and funeral held on the Nation until further notice. If necessary, district leadership is to implement additional standards.

- a. At least one (1) individual must be identified as the host/in charge of the wake/funeral services and assumes the responsibility for ensuring compliance with all applicable laws, executive orders and local district requirements.
- b. *Withdrawn.*
- c. *Withdrawn by Executive Order 2022-01.*

Section 3. **Social Gatherings.** *Withdrawn.*

Members and visitor of the Nation are strongly encouraged to conduct all gatherings in a safe manner, and advise anyone experiencing symptoms related to illness to refrain from attending gatherings while symptomatic to protect our communities from to spread of infection.

Dances held on the Nation are a matter of local concern and shall be regulated by the Districts. Individuals hosting dances on the Nation must comply with local district rules. Contact your district for more information.

Section 4. **Face Coverings:** Regardless of vaccination status, individuals are *required* to wear face coverings inside Executive Branch facilities.

Nothing herein shall restrict other government branches or districts from implementing their own mask requirements within their respective facilities.

Businesses and entities operating within the exterior boundaries of the Nation are authorized to implement their own face covering/mask requirements, taking into account the space, type of business being conducted, location, ability for patrons/guest to distance from others and level of risk to patrons/guests. Business and entities are strongly encouraged to implement safety guidelines and mask requirements for employees/staff while performing job duties.

Section 5. **Public Feedings.**

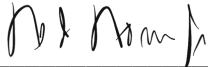
Meals and to-go plates may be distributed at all events, whether social or religious/ceremonial, so long as hosts/servers observe the following precautions:

1. Any line formed in association with food distribution must be appropriately spaced to allow for distancing among individuals not residing in the same household; and
2. Persons must be masked and gloved at all times while preparing/handling food; and
3. Handwashing stations and hand sanitizer must be made available.

Section 6. **Personal Health Precautions.** Members and visitors of the Nation are strongly encouraged to continue practicing the following health precautions based on personal circumstances while COVID-19 remains transmissible:

- a. Individuals should continue to wear face masks indoors and at crowded places where distancing is not practical.
- b. Individuals should wash hands and/or use hand sanitizer regularly and disinfect frequently touched surfaces regularly.
- c. Individuals experiencing sick symptoms should remain home until symptoms subside and avoid public outings.
- d. Individuals who become ill and demonstrate signs and symptoms related to COVID-19 should remain out of the public, however, are encouraged to seek treatment and testing.

ORDERED this 1st Day June, 2022 in Sells, Arizona.



Chairman, Tohono O'odham Nation