



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG
LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



[Home](#) · [Archived News](#) · [Executive Actions](#) · CNMI COVID-19 EMERGENCY DIRECTIVES OF 2020 (as of April 16, 2020)

CNMI COVID-19 EMERGENCY DIRECTIVES OF 2020 (AS OF APRIL 16, 2020)

📅 April 16, 2020 ⌚ 9:52 PM ➡ Executive Actions

Pursuant to the Second Amended Executive Order 2020-04, as amended and continued, declaring a State of Public Health Emergency and continuing a declaration of a State of Significant Emergency establishing response, quarantine, and preventive containment measures concerning Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), and the authority granted to me by the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Act of 2013, 1 CMC § 20144, I, as the Special Assistant for CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM), having primary jurisdiction, responsibility, and authority for:

- (ii) Planning and executing major disaster or a state significant emergency assessments, mitigations, preparedness response, and recovery for the CNMI;
- (2) Coordinating major disaster or a state significant emergency response between Federal and Local authorities;
- (3) Collaborating with relevant federal government authorities, private or non-governmental organizations or companies;
- (4) Coordinating recovery operations and mitigation initiatives subsequent to major disaster or a state significant emergency; and,



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG
LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



(ii) Use of materials and facilities. To procure, by condemnation or otherwise, construct, lease, transport, store, maintain, renovate, or distribute materials and facilities as may be reasonable and necessary to respond to the major disaster or a state significant emergency, with the right to take immediate possession thereof. Such materials and facilities including, but are not limited to, communications devices, carriers, real estate, fuels and food;

(2) Use of government facilities. To require government facility to provide services of the use of its facility if such services or use are reasonable and necessary to respond to the major disaster or a state significant emergency as a condition of licensure, authorization or the ability to continue its operation and support;

(3) Control of materials. To inspect, control, restrict, and regulate by rationing and using quotas, prohibitions on shipments, allocations, or other means, the use, sale, dispensing, distribution, or transportation of food, fuel, and other commodities, as may be reasonable and necessary to respond to the major disaster or a state significant emergency and

(4) Control of roads and public areas.

(i) To prescribe routes, modes of transportation, and destinations in consultation with public safety authorities or the provision of emergency services.

(ii) To control or limit ingress and egress to and from any stricken or threatened public area, the movement of persons within the area, and the occupancy of premises therein, if such action is reasonable and necessary to respond to the major disaster or a state of significant emergency.

I HEREBY ORDER THAT:



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG
LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



CMC § 20144(f).

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until the termination of the Declaration of a State of Significant Emergency by the Governor through Executive Order or by automatic termination after a thirty (30) day period unless renewed by the Governor.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED on this 16th day of April 2020.

/s/

GERALD J. DELEON GUERRERO

Special Assistant for Homeland Security & Emergency Management

CNMI Homeland Security & Emergency Management

Concurred by:

/s/

RALPH DLG. TORRES

Governor

ORDER OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

Pursuant to the Second Amended Executive Order 2020-04, as amended and continued, declaring a State of Public Health Emergency and continuing a declaration of a State of Significant Emergency establishing response, quarantine, and preventive containment



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG
LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



authorities;

(3) Collaborating with relevant federal government authorities, private organizations or companies;

(4) Coordinating recovery operations and mitigation initiatives subsequent to public health emergencies; and

(5) Organizing public information activities regarding public health emergency response operations; and

Further, having the ability to exercise for such period as the State of Public Health Emergency is in effect, and in consultation with the Department of Public Safety, Department of Public Works and the CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the following powers concerning facilities, materials, roads, or public areas:

(ii) Use of materials and facilities. To procure, by condemnation or otherwise, construct, lease, transport, store, maintain, renovate, or distribute materials and facilities as may be reasonable and necessary to respond to the public health emergency, with the right to take immediate possession thereof. Such materials and facilities include, but are not limited to, communication devices, carriers, real estate, fuels, food and clothing;

(2) Use of health care facilities. To require a health care facility to provide services of the use of its facility if such services or use are reasonable and necessary to respond to the public health emergency as a condition of licensure, authorization or the ability to continue doing business in the CNMI as a health care facility. The use of the health care facility may include transferring the management and supervision of the health care



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG
LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



(i) To prescribe routes, modes of transportation, and destinations in consultation with public safety authorities or the provision of emergency services.

(ii) To control or limit ingress and egress to and from any stricken or threatened public area, the movement of persons within the area, and the occupancy of premises therein, if such action is reasonable and necessary to respond to the public health emergency.

I HEREBY ORDER THAT:

Through the COVID-19 Task Force, and in partnership with the CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM), all matters pertaining to the State of Public Health Emergency and response, quarantine, and preventive containment measures concerning Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the CNMI shall be coordinated by means of these Emergency Directives entitled The CNMI COVID-19 Emergency Directives of 2020.

Further, I hereby request the Department of Public Safety and other Commonwealth law enforcement authorities' assistance in enforcing these Emergency Directives pursuant to 3 CMC § 2189.

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until the termination of the Declaration of a State of Public Health Emergency by the Governor through Executive Order or by automatic termination after a thirty (30) day period unless renewed by the Governor.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED on this 16th day of April 2020.

/s/



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG
LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



RALPH DLG. TORRES

Governor

Subject to and in concurrence of

AMENDED EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-03:

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED by Governor Ralph DLG. Torres on March 06, 2020 and

AMENDED by Governor Torres on March 6, 2020

DECLARATION OF PRICE FREEZE: Pursuant to Declaration of the State of Significant Emergency originally issued on January 29, 2020 and continued through the Second Amended Executive Order 2020-04, and the Consumer Disaster Price Freeze Act, a price freeze was declared and the prices of the following items were frozen:

1. Gasoline, kerosene, diesel fuel, natural gas, and all other chemical fuels, whether in gaseous, liquid, or solid form;
2. All foods and foodstuffs, including water, bottled water, beverages, and ice;
3. All clothing;
4. Flashlights, lamps, lanterns, candles, light bulbs, and other means of illumination;
5. Generators, cables, wires, electrical batteries of every sort, and similar equipment for the generation and/or transmission of electrical power;
6. All appliances used in the storage and/or preparation of food, including, but not limited to, stoves, barbecue grilles, ovens, refrigerators, and coolers;



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG

LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



10. All housing rentals including apartments and condominiums.

Under this declaration, prices for the aforementioned items **shall not** increase. Businesses are not inhibited from selling items at prices lower than prices at the time of the original promulgation of this declaration.

This price freeze shall last until rescinded, or until the declarations of emergency or disaster are terminated, whichever occurs first.

Subject to and in concurrence of

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-04:

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED by Governor Ralph DLG. Torres on March 16, 2020 and AMENDED by Governor Torres on March 17, 2020, March 19, 2020, March 20, 2020, March 23, 2020, March 27, 2020, March 30, 2020, April 1, 2020, April 3, 2020, April 4, 2020.

DIRECTIVE 1: The HSEM and CHCC, any government agency acting pursuant to their requests, and any private person or entity acting pursuant to their requests, is hereby granted a temporary exemption from any Commonwealth regulation that would tend to prevent, hinder, or delay any action that HSEM or CHCC deems necessary when assisting and supporting the Commonwealth in its response to the COVID-19 threat. However, HSEM, CHCC and other government agencies, and private persons or entities temporarily exempted from such regulation under this provision must continue to comply with regulations that would not tend to prevent, hinder, or delay actions that HSEM and CHCC deem necessary to respond to the COVID-19 threat.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG

LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



threat.

DIRECTIVE 5: HSEM and CHCC, in consultation with and coordination with public safety agencies, may control or limit ingress and egress to and from stricken and threatened area, the movement of persons within areas, or the occupancy of premises therein, if such actions are reasonable and necessary to facilitate its response to a COVID-19 threat.

DIRECTIVE 6: HSEM, CHCC and the Office of the Governor will seek aid from the federal government if any such aid is available and necessary.

DIRECTIVE 7: All government offices and all non-essential government functions are shut down until further notice. All non-essential personnel are asked to stay home until further notice. Essential personnel shall be identified for COVID-19 public health emergency related work. Mayors of the municipalities shall have discretion in designating employees that engage in public health emergency related work.

DIRECTIVE 8:

(a) All persons who are traveling into the CNMI, including CNMI residents, who originate from a country with an identified COVID-19 outbreak, inclusive of Guam, Hawaii, and the Continental United States, must exercise self-quarantine for 14 consecutive days as prescribed by CHCC. These individuals will be enrolled in the CHCC COVID-19 text-based illness monitoring system and will be subject to monitoring and follow up with the CHCC per their surveillance protocols. Failure to comply with CHCC self-quarantine protocol will subject the person to an order of isolation and quarantine. Individuals, including pilots and flight crew, with return flights within less than fourteen (14) days of arrival will be permitted to depart the CNMI.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG

LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



(1) Any individual entering into the CNMI by air transport whose ultimate destination is the island of Tinian or the island of Rota shall exercise the 14-day quarantine required under paragraph (a) on the island of Saipan before traveling on to Tinian or Rota.

(2) Any individual entering the CNMI by vessel must first proceed to Saipan, report to the proper authorities and CHCC, and then serve the 14-day quarantine period required under paragraph (a) on the island of Saipan before traveling on to Tinian, Rota or any other island of the CNMI.

(3) Upon successful completion of the 14-day quarantine period required by (1) or (2), CHCC shall issue a document stating that the individual is asymptomatic. The individual must present the document to any airline or vessel when checking in for a flight or voyage to Tinian or Rota, or to custom or port authorities as may be necessary. The airline or vessel shall not permit to be boarded any individual subject to quarantine under paragraph (a) who does not present such a document.

(c) CHCC shall coordinate with CPA, the CNMI Customs Service, MVA and any other necessary government agencies, commonwealth or federal, to develop and implement other protocols, quarantine measures and other increased monitoring and controls at the Commonwealth airports and seaports as to all arriving travelers, passengers and cargo for screening for COVID-19.

DIRECTIVE 9: CPA shall consult and coordinate with the FAA and airlines so as to limit travel between the islands of the CNMI to that necessary for emergencies, cargo, or government employees dealing directly with the COVID-19 threat.

DIRECTIVE 10: Gatherings of more than 10 people in a single room or single space are prohibited at the same time for social, spiritual and recreational activities, including but



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG
LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



infectious or in the 24 hours before symptoms may appear, through close contact with a person with a confirmed infection who coughs or sneezes, or through touching objects or surfaces (such as door handles or tables) contaminated from a cough or sneeze from a person with a confirmed infection, and then touching your mouth or face.

DIRECTIVE 12: There shall be no travel by a government employee unless expressly approved by the Governor or Lt. Governor, and then only in cases of emergency or in directly dealing with the COVID-19 threat.

DIRECTIVE 13: Because of the complete suspension or reduction of flights and the resulting economic slow-down and the predictable resulting decreased revenue from visitors impacting our economy, I direct the Secretary of Finance and the Special Assistant for Management and Budget to continue to monitor the fiscal impact on the FY2020 budget and to provide a weekly (or more often if deemed necessary) report to the Governor and/or Lt. Governor. As part of this report, the Secretary of Finance and the Special Assistant for Management and Budget shall make recommendations for adjustments to our FY2020 budget consistent with the CNMI Planning and Budgeting Act if such adjustments are deemed necessary by the Secretary and Special Assistant.

DIRECTIVE 14:

(a) As authorized under 1 CMC § 2191(d)(2) and NMIAC 140- 10.3-340, and subject to the modifications and exceptions stated in section (b) of this Directive, all businesses that have facilities open to the general public shall only be open to the public from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Outside of those hours, businesses may operate but may not be open to the general public. Businesses may not conduct drop-off/pick-up and delivery services during the curfew hours set in Directive 16 (*See below*).



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



Businesses covered by this section shall also limit the number of customers within their stores at any time to 50% of their permitted occupancy, as set by the Department of Public Works (DPW) Building Code.

Businesses covered by this Directive are subject to verification by the Department of Commerce as assisted as necessary by agencies listed under (c). If, upon inspection by the Department of Commerce, it is determined that the business did not properly implement social distance guidelines, then the business must immediately properly implement the guidelines. If the business is unable to properly implement the guidelines, then the business shall remain closed until it can and does in fact, properly implement the guidelines.

(b) Modifications and Exceptions:

(1) All businesses that offer food or beverages for on premises consumption, including restaurants and bars, must suspend services and may not permit on premises consumption. Such businesses are permitted and encouraged to serve food and beverages so that they may be consumed off-premises through means such as in-house delivery, third-party delivery, drive through, and curbside pick-up. In addition, customers may enter the premises to purchase food or beverages for take-out. However, establishments offering food or beverages for take-out, including food trucks, must ensure that they have an environment where patrons maintain adequate social distancing. Businesses located in the airports or hospital are exempt from this Directive. Hotel restaurants may continue to provide room service and take-out. Catering services may continue. The in-house delivery, third-party delivery, drive through, curbside and takeout services are subject to the curfew hours set in Directive 16 (*See below*).



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG
LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



(4) CHCC, public and private health clinics, dental clinics and pharmacies are excepted from the hours stated in section (a) but may set hours that, in their judgment, best deal with the COVID-19 threat. Further, these facilities and businesses are encouraged to follow best social distancing practices for health facilities.

(5) Gas stations may be open for the dispensing of gasoline only outside of curfew hours stated in Directive 16 (*See below*). If the station has a convenience store, then that store may not be open before or after the hours set in section (a).

(6) All businesses engaged in gaming, including the casino, video poker establishments and e-gaming facilities, are hereby closed to the public.

(7) All businesses engaged in recreational or amusement type activities are hereby closed to the public.

(c) CHCC, in coordination with and with the assistance of the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Commerce, Alcohol Beverage & Tobacco Control Division, the Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services, and any other necessary commonwealth agency, shall enforce this Directive. Failure to follow this Directive will subject the violator to penalties available under the law.

DIRECTIVE 15: CLOSING OF ALL PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

Pursuant to my authority under the Second Amended Executive Order 2020-04, 13 CMC § 2191(d)(2) and NMIAC 140-10.3-340, I hereby direct that all private schools shall close and remain closed until the emergency is ended or this Directive is ended. All private schools are encouraged to continue student instructional services through distance or online



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG
LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



entertainment, or vacant lots and places within the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. Violators will be subject to the penalties described in NMIAC § 140-10.3-401.

(b) *Exceptions to Curfew.* Section (a) shall not apply to law enforcement officers while in the performance of their official duties, DFEMS personnel while in performance of their official duties and other first responders while in the performance of their official duties. Section (a) shall also not apply to any person who is lawfully employed during the hours specified, or is in the direct route of going to or returning from their place of employment. Section (a) shall also not apply to any person going to or returning from admission to the hospital or completion of medical treatment such as hemodialysis.

(c) The Mayors of the municipalities may alter the hours, and the exceptions, as they deem necessary to accommodate local needs and conditions of their municipality. However, these alterations shall not undermine the reasons for the curfew.

AMENDMENT(S) TO EMERGENCY DIRECTIVE 11

MADE ON THIS of 16th day April, 2020

TO BE MADE EFFECTIVE ON this 17th day of April, 2020

DIRECTIVE 11:

(a) To further strengthen ongoing mitigation measures, the CNMI Government strongly encourages the practice of "social distancing" of at least six feet from another person not within one's household, whenever reasonable and possible, in public places and business establishments.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG

LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



Safety, the Department of Commerce, Alcohol Beverage & Tobacco Control Division, the Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services, and any other necessary commonwealth agency, shall enforce this Directive. Failure to follow this Directive will subject the violator to the following:

Penalties for violating Social Distancing mandates:

- (1) First-time offense violators will be subject to a fine of \$100;
- (2) Second-time offense violators will be subject to a fine of \$250 and/or up to three days imprisonment;
- (3) Third-time or more offense violators will be subject to a fine of \$500 and/or up to six months imprisonment.

(c) *Exceptions to Social Distancing Mandate.* Section (a) shall not apply to law enforcement officers while in the performance of their official duties and DFEMS personnel while in performance of their official duties and other first responders while in the performance of their official duties.

AMENDMENT(S) TO EMERGENCY DIRECTIVE 14

MADE HEREIN ON THE 16th of April, 2020

TO BE MADE EFFECTIVE ON THE 17th of April, 2020

- (a) As authorized under 1 CMC § 2191(d)(2) and NMIAC 140- 10.3-340, and subject to the modifications and exceptions stated in section (b) of this Directive, all businesses that have facilities open to the general public shall only be open to the public from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Outside of those hours, businesses may operate but may not be open to the



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG

LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



shopping baskets and shopping carts; sanitize handles for chill boxes, cooler, and freezers.

Businesses covered by this section shall also limit the number of customers within their stores at any time to 50% of their permitted occupancy, as set by the Department of Public Works (DPW) Building Code.

Businesses covered by this Directive are subject to verification by the Department of Commerce as assisted as necessary by agencies listed under (c). If, upon inspection by the Department of Commerce, it is determined that the business did not properly implement social distance guidelines, then the business must immediately properly implement the guidelines. If the business is unable to properly implement the guidelines, then the business shall remain closed until it can and does in fact, properly implement the guidelines.

(b) Modifications and Exceptions:

(1) All businesses that offer food or beverages for on premises consumption, including restaurants and bars, must suspend services and may not permit on premises consumption. Such businesses are permitted and encouraged to serve food and beverages so that they may be consumed off-premises through means such as in-house delivery, third-party delivery, drive through, and curbside pick-up. In addition, customers may enter the premises to purchase food or beverages for take-out. However, establishments offering food or beverages for take-out, including food trucks, must ensure that they have an environment where patrons maintain adequate social distancing. Businesses located in the airports or hospital are exempt from this Directive. Hotel restaurants may continue to provide room service and take-out. Catering services may



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG
LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



requirements of SAEO 2020-04. Provided further that exercise, wellness and shoreline subsistence fishing activities are only allowed from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily.

(4) CHCC, public and private health clinics, dental clinics and pharmacies are excepted from the hours stated in section (a) but may set hours that, in their judgment, best deal with the COVID-19 threat. Further, these facilities and businesses are encouraged to follow best social distancing practices for health facilities.

(5) Gas stations may be open for the dispensing of gasoline only outside of curfew hours stated in Directive 16. If the station has a convenience store, then that store may not be open before or after the hours set in section (a).

(6) All businesses engaged in gaming, including the casino, video poker establishments and e-gaming facilities, are hereby closed to the public.

(7) All businesses engaged in recreational or amusement type activities are hereby closed to the public.

(c) CHCC, in coordination with and with the assistance of the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Commerce, Alcohol Beverage & Tobacco Control Division, the Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services, and any other necessary commonwealth agency, shall enforce this Directive. Failure to follow this Directive will subject the violator to penalties available under the law or to the following:

Penalties for violating Business Hours mandates:

(1) First-time offense violators will be subject to immediate closure of their business establishment for a period of one month;



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG
LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



MADE HEREIN ON THE 16th day of April, 2020

TO BE MADE EFFECTIVE ON THE 17th of April, 2020

DIRECTIVE 16: CURFEW.

(a) Effective March 31, 2020, pursuant to Governor Ralph DLG. Torres' authority under the Second Amended Executive Order 2020-04, 1 CMC § 20144(h)(4)(ii), 3 CMC § 2191(d) (2) and NMIAC § 140-10.3-340, **no person**, adult or minor, shall loiter or be present in, on or about any public streets, highways, roads, alleys, parks, public buildings, places of amusement and entertainment, or vacant lots and places within the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. Violators will be subject to the penalties described in NMIAC § 140-10.3-401 or the penalties stated below in Section (d).

(b) *Exceptions to Curfew.* Section (a) shall not apply to law enforcement officers while in the performance of their official duties, DFEMS personnel while in performance of their official duties and other first responders while in the performance of their official duties. Section (a) shall also not apply to any person who is lawfully employed during the hours specified, or is in the direct route of going to or returning from their place of employment. Section (a) shall also not apply to any person going to or returning from admission to the hospital or completion of medical treatment such as hemodialysis.

(c) The Mayors of the municipalities may alter the hours, and the exceptions, as they deem necessary to accommodate local needs and conditions of their municipality. However, these alterations shall not undermine the reasons for the curfew.

(d) CHCC, in coordination with and with the assistance of the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Commerce, Alcohol Beverage & Tobacco Control Division, the



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG

LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



(2) Second-time offense violators found in public, including individuals found driving on public roads, outside of the curfew hours will be subject to a fine of \$500;

(3) Third-time or more offense violators found in public, including individuals found driving on public roads, outside of the curfew hours will be subject to a fine of \$750 and/or the impound of his/her vehicle by the Department of Public Safety;

(4) Each passenger in a vehicle found driving on a public road outside of the curfew hours will be subject to the following fines:

- (i) \$100 for a first-time offense;
- (ii) \$200 for a second-time offense;
- (iii) and \$300 for a third-time or more offense.

#

CATEGORIES

- Executive Orders (19)
 - 2025 Executive Orders (5)
 - 2024 Executive Orders (6)
 - 2026 Executive Orders (8)
- Joint Information Center (27)
 - Sinlaku (27)



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG
LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



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September 8, 2026 | 4:00 pm



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG

LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



Executive Order 2020-007: Authorizing CGC To Enter into Contracts For Emergency Operations

May 16, 2026 | 10:44 am



Previous

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-07 - ORDER DIRECTING THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS GOVERNOR'S SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDANCE - CNMI COVID-19...

Next



Contact Information

If you have any questions for our office, please reach out to the following:

Contact us by phone at:

(670) 237-2200

Current Austerity Hours:

Tuesday – Thursday: 7:30am – 4:30pm

Every Monday – Austerity



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
GOVERNOR DAVID M. APATANG
LT. GOVERNOR DENNIS JAMES C. MENDIOLA



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