



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



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MEMO – AMENDMENT TO DIRECTIVE 7 OF THE CNMI COVID-19 EMERGENCY DIRECTIVES OF 2020 REOPENING GOVERNMENT OFFICES

📅 May 14, 2020 ⌚ 7:00 PM ➡ Executive Actions

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Special Assistant for Homeland Security & Emergency Management

Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

TO: All Department and Activity Heads and Members of the Public

SUBJECT: Amendment to Directive 7 of the CNMI COVID-19 Emergency Directives of 2020 reopening government offices

On April 16, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 2020-07 that authorized the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office, through the CNMI COVID-19 Task Force, in partnership with Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC), to undertake necessary COVID-19 containment measures by means of the development of Emergency Directives to be titled the CNMI COVID-19 Emergency Directives of 2020 to protect the health and safety of the public. This action was authorized under Article III, § 10 of the Commonwealth Constitution, the Homeland Security & Emergency Management Act of 2013, 1 CMC § 20144, and the CNMI Emergency Health Powers Act of 2003, 3 CMC §§ 2181-2195, and Executive Order 2020-04, as amended and renewed.



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It appears that Directive 7 has been successful in its goal. Through Directive 7 and the other social distancing enhancing measures contained in the Emergency Directives, COVID-19 infections have been low and it appears that the large scale spread of COVID-19 has been prevented in the CNMI. Due to this apparent success, the administration believes it is now appropriate to initiate the reopening process for the government.

Reopening the government will enable the government to once again provide services to the public. By providing services the government will enable the rest of the community, especially the business community, to begin their reopening process.

The reopening process will be conducted in a phased manner. Starting May 18, 2020, most government offices will be open for a half day. This will provide government offices an opportunity to get social distancing systems and handwashing, and wearing of facemasks in place and running in safe and efficient manner. The next week, that starting on May 24, government offices will open for the regular hours maintained by the office prior to the shutdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. At that point, the government will be fully open to the public. We stress that at all times the government offices and the public using those offices will need to practice proper social distancing, handwashing, and wearing of facemasks. In that way, the government employees and the public using the government offices will stay safe.

In conformance with the above findings, Directive 7 of the CNMI COVI-19 Emergency Directives of 2020 will be amended to read as follows.:

DIRECTIVE 7: All government offices will reopen to conduct regular government business. For the week of May 17 through May 23, government offices will be open four (4) hours from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm. All non-essential government employees are directed to report to their work stations pursuant to the schedules provided by their supervisors.



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by the office prior to the shutdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. All government employees are directed to report to their work stations pursuant to the schedules provided by their supervisors. All government employees subject to work hour reductions will continue to observe those work hour reductions in the manner provided by their supervisor. Supervisors shall ensure that proper social distancing practices are maintained in their respective offices. Please note that May 25, 2020 is a legal holiday, Memorial Day.

This amendment will become effective on May 17, 2020.

We wish to extend our appreciation to our government employees for their compliance to the government shutdown. We also wish to extend our appreciation to the community for their understanding and patience in enduring the government shutdown and its disruption of government services.

This amendment in no way means that there is no longer a threat to the CNMI community. In absence of treatments and vaccines proven to be safe and effective, please continue to turn to social distancing, handwashing, and wearing of facemasks to avoid a spike in serious illness and deaths that could overwhelm our healthcare system.

CHCC and the COVID-19 Task Force will continue to frequently provide the island residents with health information and guidance to practice effective prevention measures to keep our community safe. In the meantime, CHCC will continue to investigate all suspects and cases and identify contacts to ensure that transmissions of COVID-19 is contained.

Sincerely,

/s/



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Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Concurred by:

/s/

RALPH DLG. TORRES

Governor

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& Recovery Awareness Months

September 9, 2026 | 12:30 pm

September Is Chamorro And Carolinian Cultural Heritage Month

September 8, 2026 | 4:00 pm

**PUBLIC NOTICE TO CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS, LABOR
UNIONS, AND PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS**

August 7, 2026 | 2:00 pm

**Executive Order 2026-007: Authorizing CUC To Enter Into Contracts For Emergency
Operations**

May 16, 2026 | 10:44 am



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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

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