

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF VENTURA

GOVERNMENT CENTER, HALL OF ADMINISTRATION 800 SOUTH VICTORIA AVENUE, VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93009



Dear Friends & Neighbors,

Today, effective at 11:59 pm, Ventura County Public Health Officer Dr. Robert Levin issued a "Stay Well at Home" emergency order. You can see the order here at <a href="https://s30623.pcdn.co/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/STAY-WELL-VC-ORDER.pdf">https://s30623.pcdn.co/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/STAY-WELL-VC-ORDER.pdf</a>. This order supplements the order issued by Governor Newsom last night and is the one we must follow.

We are all sharing an unprecedented experience with the challenge to stop the spread of COVID-19.

We also all have an unprecedented opportunity as a community to respond to the challenge, "flatten the curve", and do our part to ensure that needed medical and shelter resources are available for our vulnerable neighbors when they need them. Avoiding a surge that overloads our hospitals is essential to saving lives.

I want to keep this communication brief as we are all getting many emails. Fortunately, the Board of Supervisors is advised by knowledgeable and experienced public health, medical, and emergency services professionals who make their decisions and recommendations based on the best science and public health research available.

Clear and up-to-date information and resources for individuals, families, and educators about this crisis is available to the public via our <a href="https://www.vcemergency.com">www.vcemergency.com</a> website; this includes daily positive cases, the age range of the patient, and their locations.

The Economic Collaborative <u>www.edcollaborative.com</u> has many resources for businesses, including assistance with SBA loans and consultation services.

We all need to work together to prepare for the worst, while hoping for the best. Staying positive, doing our part, and keeping others' welfare in mind will allow us the time to slow the spread of transmission and ensure needed resources are there for all of us when we need them. Now is a good time to check in with vulnerable friends and neighbors.

Please feel free to reach out to my office at any time if you have questions, suggestions or want to share a concern. You can email me at <a href="mailto:steve.bennett@ventura.org">steve.bennett@ventura.org</a>. Again, you can best stay updated about COVID-19 at our County site <a href="https://www.vcemergency.com">www.vcemergency.com</a>, and you can subscribe for updates at the bottom of that page.

Thank you for your understanding and your partnership in this important community effort.

Take care, be well.

Steve Bennett

Supervisor, First District

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P.S. Below is a brief summary of the State benefits that Senator Stern recently sent me describing what may be available to you if your work has been affected by the disease. Visit the Labor & Workforce Development Agency's website for more information: <a href="https://www.labor.ca.gov/coronavirus2019/">www.labor.ca.gov/coronavirus2019/</a>

- If you're unable to work because you are caring for an ill or quarantined family member with COVID-19 you may qualify for Paid Family Leave (PFL).
- If you're unable to work due to medical quarantine or illness, you may qualify for <u>Disability Insurance</u>.
- Those who have lost a job or have had their hours reduced for reasons related to COVID-19 may be able to partially recover their wages by filing an <u>unemployment insurance</u> claim.
- If a worker or a family member is sick or for preventative care when civil authorities recommend quarantine, workers may use accrued paid sick leave in accordance with the law.
- If workers are unable to do their usual job because they were exposed to and contracted COVID-19 during the regular course of their work, they may be eligible for workers' compensation benefits.