

**STANDING PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER 2020-01
PROHIBITING SHORT TERM LODGING
ROUTT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

Recitals

A. Routt County Resolution 2009-018, established the Routt County Public Health Agency, pursuant to C.R.S. § 25-1-506, designating the Board of County Commissioners of Routt County as the Routt County Board of Health (“Board of Health”).

B. Public Health has the statutory authority to investigate and control the causes of epidemic or communicable diseases and conditions affecting public health, as well as to establish, maintain, and enforce isolation and quarantine, and to exercise physical control over persons within its jurisdiction as necessary for the protection of public health. C.R.S. § 25-1-506 (3)(b)(V) and (VI).

C. Public Health has the statutory authority to close schools and public places and to prohibit gatherings of people when necessary to protect public health. C.R.S. § 25-1-506.

D. Public Health has jurisdiction for both incorporated and unincorporated Routt County. C.R.S. § 25-1-506(2)(a).

E. The Director General of the World Health Organization has declared that COVID-19 constitutes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern and characterized it as a pandemic. The Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has declared COVID-19 constitutes a public health emergency and on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency. On March 10, 2020, Colorado Governor Jared Polis declared a State of Disaster Emergency. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has confirmed that COVID-19 continues to spread throughout the State of Colorado, and community transmission of the illness has been confirmed in Routt County. On March 13, 2020, Routt County declared a local disaster.

F. In consultation with the Routt County Public Health Director and the Routt County Public Health Medical Officer, the Board of Health issues these orders in order to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

G. These actions are some of the most available and effective tools to help slow the spread of the virus in our community – and, importantly, to reduce the number of potential deaths caused by COVID-19. By slowing the spread, we have a chance to protect our family, friends, and neighbors who are at risk for severe illness. In particular, this includes all adults over age 60 and anyone with an underlying health condition.

These actions will limit the cascading impacts on critical services due to high absenteeism if large numbers of workers become ill. This Order and actions will help hospitals, first responders, and other healthcare services continue to provide services for those who need them (along with utilities, human services, and businesses) in the coming weeks and months. Collective action can save lives and is in support of the most vulnerable in our community. The more united we can be in preventing the spread the greater the benefit for the whole community.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. This Order is effective within the entirety of Routt County, including all cities and towns within the County.

2. The issuance of this Order is deemed reasonable and necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety and welfare.

3. All short term lodging (30 days or less), including but not limited to hotels, motels, timeshares, short term rentals (including but not limited to rentals done through direct owner to renter contact, a management company, VRBO, AirBNB, or other similar service), bed and breakfasts, lodges, retreats, RV parks, and camping is prohibited. There shall be no new bookings or reservations for stays during the time period in which this Order is in effect. Reservations beginning on or after 08:00 a.m. on March 27, 2020 shall be cancelled, however, businesses are encouraged to cancel earlier reservations if reasonably practicable without stranding travelers.

4. For purposes of this Order, the following are excepted:

- a. Lodging necessary for emergency or quarantine purposes;
- b. Lodging necessary to provide lodging for essential federal, state, county or local personnel, including, but not limited to, essential personnel for the County's Emergency Operations Center and Public Health Department;
- c. Advocates of Routt County's domestic violence shelter;
- d. Lodging necessary because it is not safe or possible for a guest to depart from the County; and
- e. Lodging that is occupied by a local worker.

5. **Most Restrictive Standard Controls.** To the extent any State and/or Federal orders or laws are more restrictive than what is set forth herein, such orders control.

6. **Judicial Review.** Any person aggrieved and affected by this Order has the right to request judicial review by filing an action with the Routt County District Court within 90 days of the date of this Order, pursuant to C.R.S. § 25-1-515. However, you must continue to obey the terms of this Order while your request for review is pending.

7. **Penalties.** Failure to comply with this Order is subject to the penalties contained in C.R.S. §§ 25-1-516 and 18-1.3-501, including a fine of up to five thousand (\$5,000) dollars and imprisonment in the county jail for up to eighteen (18) months and may subject the person to a civil action for damages.

8. This Order is in effect as of 5:00 p.m. March 24, 2020 and is in effect through April 24, 2020, unless extended or earlier rescinded.

ORDERED THIS 24th day of March, 2020.

BY THE BOARD OF HEALTH FOR ROUTT COUNTY, COLORADO.

Timothy V. Corrigan, Chair

ATTEST:

Kim Bonner,
Routt County Clerk and Recorder