

Introduction - Mono County Counsel

Topics and Speakers

Compliance Philosophy

Balancing individual rights and public health during a pandemic is a critical but difficult task. The first focus should be on education and voluntary compliance.

When those tools are unsuccessful, enforcement becomes necessary in order to protect public health, foster broader compliance and avoid serious health, economic and other impacts.

Enforcing appropriate consequences where education has failed also engenders faith and confidence in government, reduces complaints and caseloads and contributes to the establishment of new norms for how to operate under COVID-19.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Overview of Authority and Activities



RECEIPT OF AND RESPONSE TO COMPLAINTS



VISIT AND INSPECT FOOD FACILITIES



PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND EDUCATION



ISSUE WARNING



PERMIT SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION



TRENDS AND OBSERVATIONS

Health & Safety Code §§ 114405/114409

A permit may be suspended or revoked by a local enforcement officer for a violation of this part. Any food facility or cottage food operation for which the permit has been suspended shall close and remain closed until the permit has been reinstated. Any food facility or cottage food operation for which the permit has been revoked shall close and remain closed until a new permit has been issued.

If any imminent health hazard is found, unless the hazard is immediately corrected, an enforcement officer may temporarily suspend the permit and order the food facility or cottage food operation immediately closed.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Overview of Authority and Activities

Receipt of and response to complaints

Visiting businesses

Inspection

Education

Administrative fines or misdemeanor citation

Trends and observations

Mono County Code Chapter 1.12

An administrative fine is established in the amount of one hundred dollars per day for each violation of a county regulation, applicable for each of the first five days of noncompliance. After the initial five day period, the fine will then be five hundred dollars per day for each violation on each day thereafter.

If any administrative fine is not paid within ninety calendar days of the date that the administrative fine was imposed, then the compliance specialist may file a claim on behalf of the county in small claims court for collection thereof or, if the amount owed is over five thousand dollars, the county counsel may file suit for collection in Superior Court.

SHERIFF

Overview of Authority and Activities Sheriff

Receipt of and response to complaints

Visiting businesses

Patrolling generally

Education

Citation

Legally authorized to enforce all public health orders (e.g., H&S §§ 101029, 120275, 131082; GC § 8665)

Trends and observations

Health & Safety Code §101029

The sheriff of each county, or city and county, may enforce within the county, or the city and county, all orders of the local health officer issued for the purpose of preventing the spread of any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease.

Every peace officer of every political subdivision of the county, or city and county, may enforce within the area subject to his or her jurisdiction all orders of the local health officer issued for the purpose of preventing the spread of any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease.

TREASURER/ TAX-COLLECTOR

Overview of Authority and Activities Tax-Collector



Responsible for issuing business licenses to all businesses within unincorporated County



Business license may be suspended or revoked by the tax collector or the Board for violation of law

Mono County Code Chapter 5.24

If at any time the license collector finds evidence of noncompliance, the license collector may revoke any license granted pursuant to Chapters 5.04–5.28.

Upon good cause shown, the board of supervisors may order the investigation of any person holding a license issued under the provisions of this chapter. After notice to the person holding the license and the opportunity for a hearing, the board may revoke or suspend the business license on such conditions as it deems appropriate,

TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES

Overview of Authority and Activities



Business visits
Complaint follow-up

to complaints







Trends and observations

Town Municipal Code Chapters 8.32 and 1.12

Any responsible person violating any provision of this code, its adopted codes or applicable state codes may be issued an administrative citation by an enforcement officer as provided in this chapter.

Except where otherwise provided in this code, fines for offenses, which are punishable as misdemeanors, shall be assessed in the amounts specified by resolution of the town council, or where no amount is specified, fines shall be assessed in an amount not exceeding one thousand dollars per violation.

Compliance Tools -Overview

Education

Assistance

Warning

Civil penalties and damages

Administrative fines and penalties

Criminal prosecution, fines and imprisonment

Business closure

Nuisance abatement

Unfair competition prosecution

License suspension or revocation

Report to licensing agencies (e.g., Alcoholic Beverage Control)

Enforcement actions of other agencies (e.g., Forest Service)

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Dr. Tom Boo M.D., Health Officer for Mono County and the Town of Mammoth Lakes QUESTIONS?