Thursday evening, March 19, 2020

Stay-at-Home Order due to COVID-19 Pandemic

At a Press Conference a short time ago, Governor Newsom released an Executive Order directing all California residents to heed current State public health directives, including the Order of the State Public Health Officer dated March 19, 2020. Dr. Sonia Angell states: “To protect public health, I as State Public Health Officer and Director of the California Department of Public Health order all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their places of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of the federal critical infrastructure sectors”. No duration is specified in the order. The order takes effect immediately. The Office of Emergency Services is directed to take necessary steps to ensure compliance.

Alpine County has already closed county offices to the public. Schools and ski areas have already been closed. All emergency services (law, fire, EMS, clinic, Public Health) will continue, as well as utilities (propane, gas, water, electricity, communications) and supply chains (truckng, delivery services). Gas stations, pharmacies, ATMs and banks, grocery stores, and food banks will stay open.

Implications of the order:
- restaurants are ordered to have take-out service only (no dining in).
- hotels, motels, and other short-term rentals are closed.
- commercial recreational businesses are closed (snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, guide services for climbing, hiking, fishing, etc.

If you have any concerns or questions about what this means for you, your business, your neighborhood, or your community, I suggest that you e-mail me at rjohnson@alpinecountyca.gov. Remember, we are all in this together, and we will only stay strong as we work together to protect the health of our families and community.

References:
https://covid19.ca.gov/stay-home-except-for-essential-needs/