



MEMORANDUM

Date: June 19, 2020

To: The Honorable Chairman and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator 

Re: **Wellness Checks for Individuals Entering County Public Buildings, Required Face Masks and COVID-19 in the Workplace Update**

As you know, early in the COVID-19 pandemic, the County instituted wellness checks for any individual entering a County building. To date, over 133,000 screenings have occurred with 44 individuals reporting above the threshold temperature. Those with body temperatures above the threshold were denied access to our buildings.

For the week of June 8, 2020 through June 14, 2020, the wellness check program conducted approximately 32,000 screenings with eight individuals above the threshold temperature of 100.4°F; seven of these individuals were members of the public and one County employee who were all denied access to the County building in which they presented.

In addition, beginning June 11, 2020, anyone entering a County building, including employees are required to wear a face mask/covering in common building areas, lobbies, stairwells and elevators. Face masks are not required in the actual workplace if physical distancing of six feet can met or if barriers are in place in lieu of meeting physical distancing requirements.

Total public Countywide COVID-19 infections are 5,019 as of today.

In an attempt to mitigate rumors, there have been only 15 employees who have contracted COVID-19 over the period from March 9 to date, approximately 3 ½ months. These employees were employed with RWRD, County Attorney's Office, Sheriff's Department, IT, Facilities Management, Library District, DOT, Justice Court, and Finance and Risk Management. In all cases, except one, the spread was not from the workplace, but the employee became infected from another source. In a number of these cases, the employees were on sick leave days before it was discovered the employee had contracted COVID-19; hence, the employee was not in the workplace when showing signs of COVID-19 symptoms.

Human Resources will work with any Department who has an employee who has had close contact with a confirmed positive COVID-19 case, whether the contact occurred outside or inside the workplace. This is done so that we can identify employees who should be placed on a 14 day quarantine to ensure workplace safety for our employees. Where Human Resources identifies an employee as having close contact with a confirmed positive COVID-19 case, that employee will be contacted immediately and directed to quarantine.

The Honorable Chairman and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
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Federal and State health confidentiality laws prevent us from disclosing any information regarding employee health status or medical condition. While employees may notice that a co-worker has stopped coming to work for a few days in a row, no assumptions should be made concerning the reason why the co-worker is not in the workplace, as the reasons can be varied and have no effect on others in the workplace. Therefore, it is important not to spread unfounded rumors or personal medical information.

If we continue to practice consistent safety measures of washing our hands frequently, regularly cleaning our work spaces, not coming to work when you are feeling ill, and most importantly, wearing a mask when necessary and avoiding contacts of 6 feet or under for 15 or more minutes in the workplace, we will continue to have minimal exposures in the workplace. I would like to thank our employees for their continued vigilance in our workplace safety efforts.

CHH/anc

c: Jan Leshar, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer,
Health and Community Services
Dr. Terry Cullen, Public Health Director, Pima County Health Department
Cathy Bohland, Director, Human Resources