Dealer Advisory October 15, 2020



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MDHHS and MIOSHA Announce Further Clarification on COVID-19 Orders

The short update...keep doing everything you were doing under Governor Whitmer's orders.

Last Friday, the **Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)** issued further clarification on its new gathering prohibition and face cover order. This order reinstates much of the regulations previously in place through Governor Whitmer's orders. The MDHHS orders are issued under a law first enacted by the Michigan Legislature after the Spanish Flu of 1918 specifically to deal with epidemics.

This order is effective immediately, and remains in effect through October 30, 2020.

MDHHS issued orders following existing executive orders as much as possible under the different law to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19. Where the MDHHS rules left off related to worker protections, new rules from MIOSHA picked up (see below).

To help individuals and businesses understand these rules, the MDHHS has developed informational handouts:

- Epidemic Order Infographic
- Epidemic Order Fact Sheet

The **Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA)** followed suit and released its own new emergency rules on Wednesday, October 14, which further returned requirements to what Governor Whitmer had in place. These rules clarify the safety requirements employers must follow to protect their employees from COVID-19. They remain in effect for six months.

For more information, please see:

- <u>Governor Whitmer's press release</u>: MIOSHA issues emergency rules to clarify requirements for employers to control, prevent, and mitigate the spread of infection
- Complete wording of MIOSHA emergency rule
- Emergency rules infographic

We have heard that MIOSHA has begun issuing fines and notices of non-compliance from inspections that occurred during the summer. MIOSHA is the agency most likely to police dealerships -- and as you have seen, businesses that get fined often end up in the news.

What Should Dealers Be Doing Now?

We expect the COVID-19 regulatory situation in Michigan will continue to be a hot-topic in the legislature; further changes may be coming. Enforcement of the new orders is also a confusing situation at this time. It is suggested that dealers continue doing what you have been for the

past months under Governor Whitmer's previous orders.

With the new regulations from MDHHS and MIOSHA, nearly every requirement under Governor Whitmer's previous executive orders is now covered under these new rules and orders.

We also remind dealers to **check your local health department** for any new emergency orders. A number of county health departments have issued emergency orders that also maintain some of the restrictions and mandates previously put in place by Governor Whitmer.

DADA and MADA continue to communicate with our legislative contacts to get further clarification on the orders and expectations moving forward. We will share this information with dealers when we know more.

Please feel free to contact DADA at (248) 643-0250 or MADA at (800) 292-1923 if you have any questions.

This advisory has been prepared in conjunction with Colombo & Colombo, P.C., and Abbott Nicholson, P.C.

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