



THE
AMERICAN
LEGION

For God and Country

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

June 26, 2020

To All Members of The American Legion, Department of Florida

Subject: The Secretary of the State of Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation's (DBPR) Executive Order to enforce the restrictions in the Governor's Executive Order 20-139.

As we all know, the month of June has show a dramatic rise in the number of reported COVID Positive cases reported. Some counties more than others. In some counties the Mayors or County officials have mandated Face Masks in public. Today, St. Augustine joined this group with a mandate.

I have been told that Alcohol, Beverage and Tobacco (ABT) has been performing spot checks on licensed establishments and the noncompliance they have been confronted with has forced the Secretary of the DBPR to take drastic action."

One of the disturbing facts that has become obvious in this pandemic lock down is that our Post Homes are being looked at as just another "Bar".

We all know that our Post Homes - our Social Quarters, the nucleus of where are programs are started, develop and brought to fruition - are much more than that.

Today, I have instructed our Department Adjutant to work with our lobbyist with an end goal of enacting legislation to have our Social quarters - OUR ORGANIZATION - THE AMERICAN LEGION POST - licensed as distinct and separate organizations - NOT AS BARS - BUT AS A VETERANS FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION - A NEW LICENSE CATEGORY! Hopefully, working together, with one loud voice, lobbying in Tallahassee we can make this happen and have our own category of license for food and drink so we can preclude being clumped into the category of being a BAR.

Today, Halsey Beshears, Secretary of Florida's Department of Business and Professional Regulation issued Executive Order 2020-09 which ordered the

following:

1. All vendors licensed to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises who derive more than 50% of gross revenue from such sales of alcoholic beverages shall suspend such sales of alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises. Such vendors may continue to sell alcoholic beverages in sealed containers for consumption off the premises in accordance with Executive Order 20-71, Sections 1 and 2.
2. Vendors who are also licensed as public food service establishments or "restaurants" under Chapter 509, Florida Statutes, may continue to operate for on-premises consumption of food and beverages at tables pursuant to the restrictions in Executive Order 20-139, so long as these vendors derive 50% or less of gross revenue from the sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption.
3. This Emergency Order shall take effect on the date of its filing.

(Executed this 26th day of June, 2020, in Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.)

A check of the licenses at DBPR do not show any American Legion Posts that are licensed food establishments under Chapter 509 of the Florida Statutes. If you would like to check the type or status of your license, click on the red button below.

DBPR WEBSITE LICENSE LOOKUP

As each American Legion Post is an autonomous entity, please take note of the recently issued Executive Order which can be downloaded in its entirety by clicking on the button below.

I understand that the enforcement efforts are going to be strict and the penalties for infractions will be severe.

**Florida Dept of Business and Professional Regulation
Executive Order 2020-09**

**Governor's Executive Order
2020-139**

**Governor's Executive Order
2020-71**

I know these are very trying times, please take care of yourselves and your family. Please take this opportunity to check on your family members and fellow American Legion Family members to see if they need anything. Should you need any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact your Post, District or Department Leadership. We are a family and we need to stand together.

For God and Country,



William "Rick" Johnson, Commander
The American Legion
Department of Florida

Florida Division of Emergency Management

The Division of Emergency Management plans for and responds to both natural and man-made disasters. These range from floods and hurricanes to incidents involving hazardous materials or nuclear power. The division prepares and implements a statewide Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, and routinely conducts extensive exercises to test state and county emergency response capabilities.

The division is the state's liaison with federal and local agencies on emergencies of all kinds. Division staff members provide technical assistance to local governments as they prepare emergency plans and procedures. They also conduct emergency operations training for state and local governmental agencies.



COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS)

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