



Kathleen Toomey, Commissioner • Brian Kemp, Governor
William R. Grow, MD, FACP, District Health Director
325 West Savannah Avenue, Valdosta, Georgia 31601
Phone: (229) 333-5290 • Fax: (229) 333-7822

COVID-19 Public Health Response **LETTER OF DIRECTIVE**

for **Food Service Establishments and Tourist Accommodations**

March 24, 2020

Due to the statewide public health emergency, COVID-19 virus is considered an “imminent health hazard” as defined in O.C.G.A. 511-6-1 and O.C.G.A. 511-6-2. Because of this, and in order to protect the public, dining areas shall be closed for dine-in service effective immediately through April 6, 2020 at 12:00 PM.

This includes all permitted food service establishments and tourist accommodations in South Health District, including Ben Hill, Berrien, Brooks, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Tift and Turner Counties.

Take out, drive-thru, delivery, and to-go orders are permitted. Limit the number of customers allowed in your establishment to no more than 10 at a time to pick up orders. Ensure customers waiting to pick up orders practice proper social distancing (keeping a six-foot distance between them).

Additionally, permit holders are reminded to make sure they adhere to their employee health policy and restrict any ill employee from working. Ensuring proper hand washing is especially important during this time as well.

If you have any questions, contact the environmental health specialist at your local health department.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'William R. Grow, M.D.'.

William R. Grow, MD, FACP
District Health Director
South Health District
Georgia Department of Public Health