

**Order of the Director of the Bucks County Department of Health Directing  
Public Health Safety Measures for Bucks County Polling Places on  
Primary Election Day, June 2, 2020**

The 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is a contagious disease that is rapidly spreading from person to person in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adjacent states, and in Bucks County. COVID-19 can be transmitted from people who are infected with the virus even if they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are mild, such as a loss of taste or smell. Additionally, exposure is possible by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching one's mouth, nose, or eyes.

COVID-19 is a threat to the public's health, for which the Bucks County may order general control measures, including, but not limited to, closure, isolation, and quarantine. This authority is granted to the Director ("Director") of the Bucks County Department of Health as the local health authority and local coordinator for emergency management pursuant to Pennsylvania law. See Section 5 of the Disease Prevention and Control Law, 35 P.S. §§ 521.1, 521.5; regulations at 28 Pa. Code §§ 27.60-27.68 (relating to disease control measures; isolation; quarantine; movement of persons subject to isolation or quarantine; and release from isolation and quarantine). Particularly, the Director has the authority to take any disease control measure appropriate to protect the public from the spread of infectious disease. See

35 P.S. § 521.5; 28 Pa. Code § 27.60. All available scientific evidence from federal and state public health authorities as well as reliable research institutions studying the progress, pathology, and spread of the disease indicate that COVID-19 will still not abate and continue to spread on and after primary election day.

Recognizing that Bucks County is obligated to conduct a primary election on June 2, 2020 in compliance with the Election Code and amendments (the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, as amended on October 31, 2019 (P.L.552, No.77) and on March 28, 2020 (P.L. 41, No. 12)), I am ordering certain actions to be taken by poll workers and voters to protect their health and lives, the health and lives of their families, and the health and lives of the residents of the Commonwealth. Special consideration is required to protect voters and the poll workers (many of whom are especially vulnerable to the effects of an coronavirus infection), needed to operate the voting machines and instruct and aid voters in the act of voting on equipment being used for the first time in an election in Bucks County.

Accordingly, on this date, May 7, 2020, to protect the public from the spread of COVID-19, I hereby order:

A. All poll workers, voters, and persons accompanying voters, and anyone else entering or standing in line to enter a polling place for the June 2, 2020 primary election shall wear face coverings covering mouth and nose, and maintain a distance

of no less than six feet from one another unless the actions required by the Election Code to vote, such as assisting voters in inserting their ballot into a scanner, temporarily require closer contact by poll workers or persons accompanying voters.

B. The Board of Elections shall establish protocols for:

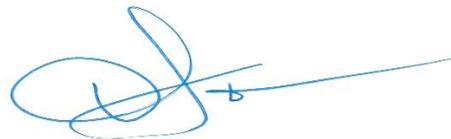
1. cleaning of surfaces touched by voters, including the wiping of surfaces and writing instruments touched by voters and poll workers;
2. the provision of sufficient quantities of face coverings and accessible hand sanitizer for all poll workers;
3. the safe distribution of face coverings to voters and poll workers;
4. where possible, barriers between poll workers and persons in the polling places that facilitate communication between them and the conduct of primary election while protecting them as much as possible from exposure that could result in transmission of the virus;
5. to the extent reasonably feasible, the spacing of persons waiting in line to vote so that they are not less than six feet apart.

C. No person who due to a disability as defined by the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, Pub. L. No. 101-336, 104 Stat. 328 (1990), of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, Act Of 1955, P.L. 744, No. 222, As Amended June 25, 1997 By Act 34 Of 1997, 43 P.S. §§ 951-963, shall be denied the right to vote on June 2, 2020 by reason of such disability. The Board of Elections shall

establish protocols for enabling such persons to vote and have their vote counted if by reason of their disability they cannot wear a face covering. Such disabilities include, but are not limited to, the need to wear a mask for the use of pure oxygen. Such protocols may include the delivery to such person of a provisional ballot and providing such aid as in necessary and proper under the Election Code in completing it. Additionally, the Board of Elections shall adopt protocols for periodically determining whether such persons are outside of the polling place waiting to vote.

D. To facilitate the right to vote of persons who do not have or refuse to wear a face covering, the Board of Elections shall adopt protocols for enabling such persons to vote and have their vote counted. Such protocols may include providing such persons with either face coverings or a provisional ballot (and providing such aid as in necessary and proper under the Election Code in completing the provisional ballot). The Board of Elections shall adopt protocols for periodically determining whether such persons are outside of the polling place waiting to vote.

This Order shall take effect immediately and be enforceable through the close of the polls in Bucks County on the June 2, 2020 primary election.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'D' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

David C. Damsker, M.D.  
Director, Bucks County Health Department