



Janet T. Mills
Governor

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL
AND FINANCIAL REGULATION
Board of Funeral Service
35 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0035

Anne L. Head
Commissioner

April 9, 2021

Dear Maine Funeral Practitioner:

On March 5, Governor Mills [announced](#) the “Moving Maine Forward” plan, which provides clear guidance for Maine businesses as we begin the busy tourism season. To implement these changes, the governor issued [Executive Order 35 FY 20/21](#) (“EO 35”) on March 5, 2021.

Of note for licensees of the Maine Board of Funeral Service, EO 35 provides as follows:

A. GATHERINGS AND IN-STORE CUSTOMER LIMITS

1. Indoor gatherings and in-store customer limits. Indoor gathering limits and in-store customer limits are amended as follows:

a. **From March 26, 2021 through May 23, 2021:** 50% of permitted occupancy, 5 persons per 1,000 sq. ft., or 50 persons, whichever is greatest;

b. **May 24, 2021 and thereafter:** 75% of permitted occupancy, 5 persons per 1,000 sq. ft., or 50 persons, whichever is greatest.

2. Outdoor gatherings. Any outdoor gathering taking place at a facility or event that is subject to a permitted occupancy limit is subject to the following limits:

a. **From March 26, 2021 through May 23, 2021:** 75% of permitted occupancy;

b. **May 24, 2021 and thereafter:** 100% of permitted occupancy.

In addition, EO 35 continues to require masks in *all* public settings, regardless of the ability to physical distance. Public spaces include indoor spaces that are accessible to the public and outdoor spaces.

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EO 35 amends the testing and quarantine requirements as follows:

1. Effective March 5, 2021. The testing and quarantine requirements set forth in Section II of Executive Order 57 FY 19/20, as amended by Executive Order 18 FY 20/21, do not apply to:

a. Persons who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, or who have contracted COVID-19 and completed their isolation period.

b. For purposes of this section, a person is considered "fully vaccinated" after at least 14 days following completion of the COVID-19 vaccination series. A person is considered to have "fully completed their isolation period" when either (1) at least 10 days have passed following symptom onset and after resolution of fever for at least 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medications; or (2) for those who never develop symptoms, 10 days after the date of their first positive test result for the virus that causes COVID-19.

As of March 5, 2021, exemptions from testing or quarantine are available for residents of New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts. Under the [Moving Maine Forward Plan](#), Maine will shift this policy by May 1, 2021, to automatically exempt all states unless a state is otherwise determined by the Maine CDC as being high risk.

The guidance issued by the Board of Directors and staff of the Maine Funeral Directors Association (MFDA) will be shared once it has been updated. If you have questions about the MFDA guidance, please refer to the list of resources at the end of the updated MFDA guidance. Additional guidance on funerals is available through the U.S. CDC at this [LINK](#).

Please do not hesitate to contact the board at funeral.board@maine.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hawk

Jennifer Hawk
Board Administrator