



June 29, 2020

UPDATE #22 – TENNESSEE PLEDGE

Friends:

Knox County has recently announced that it will begin following the state’s guidelines, the Tennessee Pledge. As of July 1, the Tennessee Pledge Guidelines will be applicable to all Tennessee counties except Davidson, Hamilton, Madison, Sullivan and Shelby. The Tennessee Pledge recommendations regarding business operations differs in some respects.

Two of the biggest issues are the operations of fitness centers and pools. The Tennessee Pledge addresses both issues. This update provides recommendations on the operation of pools and fitness centers in apartment complexes. The entire Tennessee Pledge guidance is available on our website and can also be found at <https://www.tn.gov/governor/covid-19/economic-recovery/tennessee-pledge.html>.

Fitness Centers and Gyms

- Fitness centers and gyms **MUST** be staffed to be open. Fitness centers and gyms that are not staffed **MUST** be closed.
- Fitness Centers should maintain a visitor log to better facilitate any potential need for contact tracing.
- Residents must be screened for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Staff should wear face coverings, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control (“CDC”).
- Staff should regularly (about every 2 hours) disinfect high-touch surface areas, including equipment and other surfaces in the common area. If locker rooms, showers, and/or changing rooms are utilized, sanitation should be significantly increased.
- Fitness centers and gyms should practice and encourage social distancing.
- Post signs that encourage social distancing.
- When possible, keep doors and windows open in order to improve ventilation.
- Adjust equipment layout and close or restrict access to equipment to comply with social distancing guidelines.

Dwight E. Tarwater¹

Thomas A. Bickers¹

John W. Elder^{1*2*3}

Michael J. King^{1*4}

Taylor A. Williams¹

Catherine W. Anglin¹

Lindsey M. Collins¹

Barbara K. Doolittle^{1*5}

Kendell M. Garrett¹

Thomas H. Jarvis¹

Kelsey C. Osborne^{1*6}

Donald F. Paine
(1939 - 2013)

¹ Licensed in Tennessee

² Licensed in Illinois

³ Licensed in New York

⁴ Licensed in North Carolina

⁵ Licensed in Pennsylvania

⁶ Licensed in Texas

Pools and Other Aquatic Venues

- Pools **SHOULD** be staffed. A staff member, who is not the lifeguard on duty, should be assigned monitoring and cleaning responsibilities.
- Pools should maintain a visitor log to better facilitate any potential need for contact tracing.
- Encourage the use of face coverings; however, residents should not wear face coverings in the water.
- Modify the layout of deck chairs and tables and limit the number of people allowed in the pool area. Likewise, observe social gathering size limits and comply with the applicable state orders.
- Implement cleaning procedures consistent with CDC guidelines.
- Close areas that are not in compliance with the social distancing guidelines such as hot tubs and saunas.
- Limit pool access to residents only.
- Post signage regarding social distancing and sanitizing.
- Consider implementing a system (such as requiring reservations) to limit the number of people in the pool area at any one time.

Other

- Close basketball courts, racquetball courts, and other places where team sports may occur.
- Only allow group fitness classes if such classes can be held while complying with state social distancing recommendations.
- Close water fountains and encourage patrons to bring their own water.
- Make sure there is sufficient staffing in order to provide enhanced sanitation and cleaning measures.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Very Truly Yours,

Mike

Michael J. King