



HOTEL GUIDANCE FOR ACCEPTING ESSENTIAL TRAVELERS

May 2020 - **REVISED**

GUIDANCE FOR ACCEPTING GUESTS DURING A SHELTER-IN-PLACE ORDER

Currently, Governor Newsom's statewide "stay-at-home" order prohibits hotels from allowing guests to stay for leisure travel. Hotels may accept:

- Essential Workers or Those Traveling to/from Essential Work
 - Such as: First Responders, Healthcare Workers
- People Who Need to Self-Isolate or Quarantine
- People Who Cannot Stay in Their Own Home
 - Because Someone Needs to Self-Isolate/Quarantine There
- People who are in the Area to Care for a Vulnerable Person
 - Such as: Elderly, Minor, Dependent, Person with Disabilities

Hotels can also be utilized for COVID-19 mitigation and containment measures (contracted/room block situations). Hotels accepting homeless populations ([Project Roomkey](#)) are also allowed.

(Note: Local orders are being updated continuously to clarify/expand on the statewide order, so hotels should always confirm that they are complying with the most current version of their local order.)

To protect against claims of providing accommodations for leisure guests, hotels should consider a notice on their website referencing the applicable health orders (state and/or county) and having guests sign a simple form such as the following:

I confirm that I am traveling for purposes related to Covid-19 mitigation and containment measures such as an essential worker or traveling for the purpose of caring for a sick individual.

Signature

Date

Hopefully, all eligible guests will sign the form. If a guest refuses to do so, hotel staff should inform the guest of the prohibitions discussed above and make a notation on the form that this was done. It is recommended that these documents be maintained for at least 30 days after the guest's departure, or as otherwise mandated by a local order.

This is an information service of CHLA. It does not purport to serve as legal or other professional advice, and the counsel of competent professionals should always be sought.

OVERVIEW

Hotels are not allowed to be open for leisure guests, only for those guests considered to be "[essential](#)" travelers. Please check often with your [county for updated orders](#) regarding acceptance of leisure guests.

INDEMNIFICATION WAIVERS

CHLA does not recommend having guests sign indemnification waivers. At this time, there is great uncertainty regarding enforceability.

PLEASE NOTE: According to the Supreme Court ruling in the [City of Los Angeles v. Patel](#), it is recommended that hotel owners/operators **do not divulge guest information** upon request by law enforcement without a warrant for such information. The guest registry information is the property of the hotel and guests have an expectation of privacy.

Always consult legal counsel for such requests.

CHLA + CABBI Members:

Questions or concerns?

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