

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

Via Hand Delivery
and E-mail: speaker@guamlegislature.org

December 17, 2021

HONORABLE THERESE M. TERLAJE

Speaker

I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

36th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

RE: Executive Order No. 2021-31

Hafa Adai Madame Speaker:

Pursuant to Public Law 34-16, transmitted herewith is the following Executive Order:

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2021-31: Relative to Lifting Social
Gathering Restrictions During the Public Health Emergency**

Thank you.

Senseremente,

SOPHIA SANTOS DIAZ

Legal Counsel

Enclosure: Executive Order No. 2021-31

cc via email: *Maga'hågan Guåhan*
Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan
Hon. F. Philip Carbullido, Chief Justice of Guam
Compiler of Law
Central Files
Cabinet Members



**ISLAND OF GUAM
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGÁTÑA, GUAM 96932
U.S.A.**

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2021-31

**RELATIVE TO LIFTING SOCIAL GATHERING RESTRICTIONS
DURING THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, I, Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*, Governor of Guam, acting pursuant to the power provided by the Organic Act of Guam and the laws of Guam, declared a public health emergency on the island of Guam due to dangers posed by the 2019 novel coronavirus ("COVID-19"); and

WHEREAS, in 2021 our island was severely impacted by the Delta variant of COVID-19, resulting in a spike of infection, hospitalization, and death; consequently, on August 27, 2021, in Executive Order No. 2021-21, I temporarily suspended in-person learning in our schools, and imposed a strict limitation on social gathering numbers; and

WHEREAS, in large part due to our community's efforts in getting vaccinated, getting booster shots, and observing established mitigation measures, our COVID-19 metrics have slowly stabilized, and our hospitalizations from COVID-19 have gradually decreased; and

WHEREAS, as a result of our improved metrics, on November 19, 2021, in Executive Order No. 2021-29, I cautiously raised the limit on social gatherings, and permitted outdoor dining at eating and drinking establishments for unvaccinated patrons; and

WHEREAS, our metrics have continued to improve notwithstanding the increase in social gathering numbers and adjusted dining limitations; and

WHEREAS, since June 2020, Guam has relied on the Covid Area Risk ("CAR") Score to assess the risk of COVID-19 spread, which is calculated using three (3) main data points – effective retransmission rate, test positivity rate, and new cases per 100,000 persons; and

WHEREAS, since November 2021, Guam's CAR Score has steadily held under 1.0, and we have gradually improved to consistently fewer than ten (10) hospitalizations, and a test positivity rate of less than 2%; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic remains a clear threat to our safety as a community, and we must all continue to take common-sense precautions to protect ourselves and our loved ones against this disease; and

WHEREAS, as our island continues to be engaged in emergency response, it is important that we utilize our best available tools against COVID-19, including vaccines, monoclonal antibody therapy treatment, testing, and, as always, the practice of strict personal mitigation measures; and

///

///



**ISLAND OF GUAM
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGÁTÑA, GUAM 96932
U.S.A.**

WHEREAS, by getting vaccinated and continuing to practice basic mitigation measures of washing hands, wearing masks, and maintaining social distance, we will continue to make strides towards minimizing the spread of COVID-19 on our island, and keeping our community safe.

NOW THEREFORE, I, LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam as amended, do hereby order:

1. **SOCIAL GATHERINGS OR CONGREGATIONS.** A “congregation” or “social gathering” is a meeting for a common and singular purpose of more than one (1) person, where the individuals are not members of a single household. Effective at 8:00AM on December 18, 2021, social gatherings or congregations outdoors shall be increased to no more than one hundred (100) persons, regardless of vaccination status, subject to applicable DPHSS guidance. Indoor gatherings shall continue to be limited to no more than twenty-five (25) persons, regardless of vaccination status, subject to applicable DPHSS guidance. Indoor dining at eating and drinking establishments shall continue to be limited to vaccinated individuals as established in Executive Order No. 2021-29, and applicable DPHSS guidance.
 - a. **PLACES OF WORSHIP.** Places of worship may continue services, ceremonies, and operations as provided in Executive Order No. 2021-16, but must strictly comply with requirements provided in applicable DPHSS guidance, including mask-wearing requirements.
2. **CONTINUED MANDATE OF THE WEARING OF MASKS.** Mask wearing in public shall continue to be mandated for all individuals aged two (2) years and older, in accordance with applicable DPHSS Guidance.
3. **SEVERABILITY.** If any provision of this Executive Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Order that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end, the provisions of this order are severable.
4. **PRIOR ORDERS REMAIN IN EFFECT.** All prior Executive Orders remain in full force and effect except to the extent they conflict with this Order.

///

///



ISLAND OF GUAM
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGÁTÑA, GUAM 96932
U.S.A.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam, this 14th day of **December** 2021.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Maga'hågan Guåhan
Governor of Guam

Acknowledged:

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan
Lt. Governor of Guam



Signed on 12/13/2021