



WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFFS AND POLICE CHIEFS

GET THE WORD OUT (GTWO)

April 5, 2020

Sheriffs and Chiefs-

We are providing information from the Governor's Joint Information Center on the **enforcement process and guidelines for the *Stay Home Stay Healthy* Order**. The state's new [webform](#) to file complaints is up and running but there remain many questions about state agencies' role in enforcement.

The vast majority of individuals and businesses are following the Governor's orders and voluntary compliance is still the most effective way to lower the curve on the coronavirus. However, there are about 100 referrals a day coming to the state that **may** be routed to local law enforcement so we want you to have the state's guidelines on how to handle those referrals (if they fall into your jurisdiction).

The attached documents are provided for information only. Here's the part that we think you need to know:

- The state has built a mechanism for complaints about businesses operating in violation of the Governor's orders.
- If a state agency has regulatory authority over the business, the complaint will be handled by that agency.
- If there is no state agency with regulatory authority over the business the state will ask the complainant to contact local law enforcement.
- If the state has regulatory authority, the state agency will then attempt to convince the business to comply with the Governor's orders.
- If the business refuses to work with the state agency, the state will then refer the complaint to local law enforcement.
- **State referrals will be routed through your local Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP).**
- As your local priorities and resources allow, you **may** contact the referred business. **The nature and handling of the contact is entirely your discretion - whether that contact is for educational or enforcement purposes.**

Is it WASPC's understanding that any enforcement action taken by the Attorney General will focus on the Consumer Protection Act and Landlord-Tenant issues.

Finally, as with many things at the moment, there will likely be questions that simply do not have answers. This is provided for your information to be aware of actions by state agencies to facilitate compliance on the Governor's order.

As we have said several times, local law enforcement decisions will be based on your own resources and priorities.

In these two documents, anytime the word "agency" is used, that means the State regulatory agency.

- [This](#) is the document that outlines the state's process.
- [This](#) is the document that provides the overall guidelines the state agencies follow.

Thank you again. Also, please make sure to check our WASPC COVID resource page often - we update it frequently and focus on information that will be usable to you.

Stay Safe,

Steve

Steven D. Strachan, Executive Director
Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs
