

Dear bar/restaurant/entertainment establishment owner,

We hope you are having a happy and healthy holiday season after what has been an incredibly difficult year for you and your industry. Because we all want to end the pandemic and get back to bars, clubs, and restaurants full of celebrating patrons, it is essential that we all continue to stay vigilant and keep safety measures in place through the holidays and into the new year. The transmission levels of COVID-19 in Boone County remain high, and we all have a responsibility to do whatever we can to slow the spread of the virus.

With that in mind, please remember that the Public Health Orders in Columbia and Boone County will remain in effect during New Year's Eve celebrations. That includes "private events" at your establishment. If you are selling tickets or taking table reservations for a New Year's Eve event, you must still observe all of the Health Order protocols, including closing by 10:30pm.

As detailed in the Orders, violating these safety measures could result in losing your operating permit and/or facing prosecution. These protocols include:

- All patrons and staff wearing a face mask and maintaining social distances of 6 feet or more:
- If serving alcohol, closing operations by 10:30 pm;
- A limit of 100 people or 50% occupancy (whichever is less) for all entertainment venues and events, provided social distancing can be maintained. If social distancing cannot be maintained, an establishment is limited to the number of patrons that will allow for social distancing;
- Patrons remaining seated at a table unless they are entering or exiting the facility or going to or from the restroom;
- Keeping dance floors closed.

You can find more details on the current Public Health Orders here: https://www.como.gov/coronavirus/official-documents/

We thank you for your continued support and cooperation as we all navigate this pandemic together. Your actions have already saved countless lives in mid-Missouri. With your help, we'll be able to get back to normal in 2021.