Supplemental Protocols for Reopening Monongalia County Bars

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Due to the number and demographics of positive cases of COVID-19 in Monongalia County, Executive Order 52-20, together with subsequent orders, prohibited on-premises consumption at bars and placed certain limitations on "bar areas" within restaurants, hotels, and other similar facilities in Monongalia County.

On Monday, August 31, 2020, bars in Monongalia County are expected to be allowed to resume operations subject to the supplemental protocols outlined herein, which supplemental protocols shall supplement the Governor’s general guidance for bars and restaurants, A Guide to Safely Opening Bars and Restaurants, found at governor.wv.gov.

In order to resume operations on August 31, 2020, bars and bar areas within restaurants, hotels, and other similar facilities shall:

- Strictly enforce a maximum indoor occupancy of 50% of seating capacity;
- Restrict entrance to those who are 21 years of age or older;
- Close and restrict access to dance floors; and
- Prohibit any indoor live performance or entertainment.

In addition to the above protocols, the West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administration, working with state and local police, will increase their enforcement operations related to the Governor’s reopening guidelines and these supplemental protocols.

Failure to adhere to the guidelines and these supplemental protocols will result in suspension of a restaurant’s or bar’s license to operate or its WVABCA license, as applicable, and/or other appropriate enforcement measures.

The Governor has directed his agencies, including the West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administration and the West Virginia Department of Transportation, to work with any appropriate local bodies to allow for expanding the premises and operations of any affected establishments into outdoor and open-air settings to the greatest extent feasible.

For more information, visit governor.wv.gov