ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

CANCELLING COACHELLA AND STAGECOACH ON DATES CURRENTLY SCHEDULED

DATE OF ORDER: MARCH 10, 2020

Please read this Order carefully. Violation of or failure to comply with this Order is a crime punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both. (California Health and Safety Code § 120295; County Ordinances 533 and 556.)

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040, 101085, AND 120175, TITLE 17 CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS SECTION 2501, AND RIVERSIDE COUNTY CODE SECTION 533.6, THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE (“HEALTH OFFICER”) ORDERS:

1. The Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival, presently set to take place on April 10 through 12, 2020 inclusive, and April 17 through 19, 2020 inclusive, and the Stagecoach Country Music Festival, presently set to take place on April 24 through 26, 2020 inclusive, are hereby cancelled.

2. This Order is issued as a result of the worldwide epidemic of COVID-19 disease, also known as “novel coronavirus,” which has infected at least 118,000 individuals worldwide in 115 countries and is implicated in over 4,200 worldwide deaths.

3. This Order is issued based on evidence of increasing transmission of COVID-19 both within the County of Riverside and worldwide, scientific evidence regarding the most effective approach to slow transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically, as well as best practices as currently known and available to protect the public from the risk of spread of or exposure to COVID-19.

4. This Order recognizes that both the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival and the Stagecoach Country Music Festival are music concerts and gatherings of an international scope, attracting hundreds of thousands of attendees from many countries, including several disproportionately afflicted by the worldwide COVID-19 epidemic.

5. This Order is intended to reduce the likelihood of exposure to COVID-19, thereby slowing the spread of COVID-19 in communities worldwide. If COVID-19 were detected at these festivals, the scope and number of attendees and the nature of the venue would make it infeasible, if not impossible, to track those who may be placed at risk.

6. This Order is issued in light of the first community-acquired case of COVID-19 in the County of Riverside having been detected in an individual hospitalized in Rancho Mirage, California, strongly suggesting that COVID-19 is present and circulating within a close proximity to the venue where both the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival and the Stagecoach Country Music Festival were to be held.

7. This Order is issued in accordance with, and incorporates by reference, the: March 4, 2020 Proclamation of a State Emergency issued by Governor Gavin Newsom; the March 8, 2020 Declaration of Local Health Emergency based on an imminent and proximate threat to public health from the introduction of novel COVID-19 in Riverside County; the March 10, 2020 Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside proclaiming the existence of a Local Emergency in the County of Riverside regarding COVID-19; and the March 10, 2020 Resolution
of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside ratifying and extending the Declaration of Local Health Emergency due to COVID-19.

8. This Order comes after the release of substantial guidance from the County Public Health Officer, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and other public health officials through the United States and around the world recommending the cancellation of mass gatherings involving more than one thousand (1,000) or more persons in a single space at the same time.

9. This Order is made in accordance with all applicable State and Federal laws, including but not limited to: Health and Safety Code sections 101030, et seq.; Health and Safety Code sections 120100, et seq.; and Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations section 2501.

10. To the extent necessary, pursuant to Government Code sections 26602 and 41601 and Health and Safety Code section 101029, the Health Officer requests that the Sheriff and all Chiefs of Police in the County ensure compliance with and enforcement of this Order.

11. Copies of this Order shall promptly be: (1) made available at the County of Riverside Health Administration office located at 4065 County Circle Drive, Riverside, CA 92503; (2) posted on the County of Riverside Public Health Department’s website (rivcoph.org); and (3) provided to any member of the public requesting a copy of this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

Dr. Cameron Kaiser, MD, MPH, FAAFP
Public Health Officer
County of Riverside

Approved as to form and legality:

Gregory P. Priamios
County Counsel
County of Riverside

Dated: March 10, 2020