

# Restaurant News

July 29, 2021

#### St. Louis City / County & City of KC reissue mask mandates

Citing increasing Covid-19 cases and hospitalizations, St. Louis City and St. Louis County leaders on Monday reinstated mask mandates effective July 26, requiring most people aged 5 or over, both vaccinated and unvaccinated, to wear masks in indoor spaces and on public transportation. Masks are urged, but not required in outdoor settings, especially those involving large groups. The County Order is effective until amended or rescinded, while the City Order is effective for 30 days.

Mayor Quinton Lucas <u>announced</u> yesterday that a mask order will become effective in Kansas City at 12:01 a.m. on August 2 through at least the same time on August 28.

In announcing all three masking orders noted the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Tuesday updated its guidance to recommend that even vaccinated people wear masks indoors in parts of the country with at least 50 new cases per 100,000 residents over the past week. That metric would require indoor masking as of today in all but one Missouri county according to <a href="CDC Data">CDC Data</a>. The lone exception is Scotland county to the northeast.

On Tuesday, the St. Louis County Council, citing the recently passed <u>Missouri House Bill</u> **271**, voted 5 - 2 to rescind the mask mandate in the County.

On Wednesday, state Attorney General Eric Schmitt filed for a temporary restraining order in St. Louis County Circuit Court to block the County from enforcing its order. Until the court issues its ruling, it's difficult for businesses and individuals to make an informed decision.

Analysis from the Littler law firm will prove helpful:

- St. Louis City / County mask orders
- CDC revisits Covid-19 restrictions

A copy of the Attorney General's motion can be accessed at the link below:

Motion for Temporary Restraining Order and Preliminary Injunction

MRA will keep you informed as this situation unfolds.



#### New MRA member benefit

Great news! MRA is now officially partnered with GiftAMeal, a terrific charitable marketing organization, founded and based in Missouri, that many of you already work with.

GiftAMeal offers MRA members a deep discount and for a limited time is donating \$100 to the MRA Education Foundation for each member that participates in the program.

GiftAMeal has over 40,000 app users who look at their app when deciding where to eat. Then, each time a user takes a photo at a participating restaurant, GiftAMeal donates to a local food bank to provide a meal to someone in need. It is very straightforward for you to join — a small flat fee with no contract or commitment.

Our very own Meegan Whitehead (President of the Greater St. Louis Restaurant Association and General Manager of Anthonino's Taverna) has partnered with GiftAMeal for years. Commenting on the program, she stated, "Customers love it, and it gets them talking and sharing their experiences. It is marketing by doing good, and I love seeing the impact add up month after month. Compared to traditional advertising, there is just so much value — AND it feeds people. Even though it is just a small part of a marketing budget, it's the part that I feel most excited to spend."

Access your discount and book a free demo with the GiftAMeal team at <a href="www.giftameal.com/mra">www.giftameal.com/mra</a>. You can also reach out to GiftAMeal's CEO Andrew Glantz directly at <a href="mailto:andrew@giftameal.com">andrew@giftameal.com</a> or at 314-656-6244.

#### Personalized health insurance for hospitality workers

The Missouri Restaurant Association is pleased to offer hospitality workers access to a variety of health insurance solutions for individuals & families.

Licensed insurance agents are standing by ready to walk you through your insurance choices. They can help you find the right plan at the right price that's the right fit for you from a variety of top health insurance companies.



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