



**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**IN THE MATTER OF:
Shanta's Threading
Violations of Executive Orders and
RI Department of Health Regulations**

IMMEDIATE COMPLIANCE ORDER

Now comes the Director of the Rhode Island Department of Health ("RIDOH"), as informed by the Chair ("Chair") of the Rhode Island COVID-19 Enforcement Task Force ("Task Force"), and pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 23-1-20 and 23-1-21, Executive Orders 20-32 and 90 ("Executive Orders"), and the RIDOH rules and regulations pertaining to Safe Activities By Covered Entities During the COVID-19 Emergency (216-RICR-50-15-7) ("Safe Regulations"), determines that Shanta's Threading ("Respondent") is in violation of applicable Executive Orders and/or the Safe Regulations, which violations require immediate action to protect the health, welfare, and safety of the public.

NEED FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

On March 9, 2020, Governor Gina M. Raimondo declared a state of emergency for the State of Rhode Island due to the dangers to health and life posed by COVID-19. The Safe Regulations were promulgated as an emergency rule, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.10, based on a finding that an imminent peril to the public health, safety, or welfare required immediate promulgation of the rule, specifically that "[i]n order to prevent further spread of COVID-19 as individuals begin to leave their homes more frequently and establishments begin to reopen, protective measures must be followed and

implemented for individuals and establishments to resume operations so that the public's health and welfare is protected.”

GROUNDS FOR DETERMINATION OF VIOLATION

- I. Respondent is a personal services establishment located at 1920 Mineral Spring Avenue in North Providence.
- II. Respondent is a covered entity as defined in the Safe Regulations. As such, the Respondent is required to comply with applicable Executive Orders and the Safe Regulations.
- III. On or about August 29, 2020, a Task Force inspector met with an employee and attempted to conduct a Healthy Environment inspection of the Respondent. The inspector was advised that he would have to speak to the owner, but no information was given to the inspector as to when the owner would be there or how to contact the owner. As a result, no inspection was conducted. However, the inspector did observe that the employee was servicing a customer while not wearing a cloth face covering.
- IV. On or about October 31, 2020, a different Task Force inspector met with owner Shanta Islam (“Owner”) and conducted an inspection of the Respondent. The inspector performed a checklist inspection based on the Safe Regulations and determined that the Respondent scored a 5/12 for overall requirements.
- V. Therefore, as a result of the Respondent’s failure to comply with applicable Executive Orders and the Safe Regulations, and in the absence of any other information to rebut the allegations above, RIDOH has drawn the conclusion that the above allegations are true, and the Respondent is not in compliance with applicable Executive Orders and/or the Safe Regulations.

VIOLATIONS

The following alleged violations stem from the October 31, 2020 reinspection.

- I. Respondent is in violation of Section 7.4.1(A)(3) of the Safe Regulations, which requires all individuals in an establishment to wear cloth face coverings unless physical distancing or an exception applies and requires establishments to deny entry to any employee, who is not otherwise exempt from the requirement, who refuses to wear a cloth face covering when required. The inspector observed that the Owner was the only employee in the establishment and that she was not wearing a cloth face covering. The Owner did not claim an exception, nor was she able to continuously maintain physical distancing.
- II. Respondent is in violation of Section 7.4.1(A)(1)(f) of the Safe Regulations, which requires the designation of a point of contact who is familiar with the applicable Executive Orders and the Safe Regulations, and who will work with RIDOH on testing, contact tracing, case investigation, isolation and quarantine follow up. Upon request, Respondent admitted that she was not familiar with the applicable Executive Orders and the Safe Regulations.
- III. Respondent is in violation of Section 7.4.1(A)(1) of the Safe Regulations, which requires each covered entity to develop, maintain, and ensure compliance with a written plan for the safe operation of the establishment. Upon request, Respondent could not produce a written plan.
- IV. Respondent is in violation of Section 7.4.1(A)(1)(a) of the Safe Regulations, which requires establishments to ensure compliance with a plan that includes procedures relative to, among other things, physical distancing at all times, to the extent feasible, and additional measures to be taken in high traffic, communal, or other areas where physical distancing is not feasible. As stated, above, Respondent could not produce the required plan and the inspector observed that there were no measures in place to ensure that physical distancing was maintained.

- V. Respondent is in violation of Sections 7.4.1(A)(6) & (7) of the Safe Regulations, which require each covered entity to ensure the performance of environmental cleaning of its establishments once per day, to clean commonly touched surfaces, such as shared workstations, elevator buttons, door handles and railings in accordance with CDC guidance for specific industries, and to maintain records documenting such environmental cleaning. The inspector observed that commonly touched surfaces, equipment, objects, and workstations appeared dirty, and concluded, therefore, that the Respondent did not clean high touch surfaces in accordance with CDC guidelines for its industry. Furthermore, upon request, the Respondent could not produce the required cleaning records.
- VI. Respondent is in violation of Section 7.4.1(A)(8) of the Safe Regulations, which requires all covered entities to maintain an employee work log that identifies the full name, phone number, and the date and time of all shifts worked by each employee. This work log must be maintained for at least thirty (30) days. Upon request, Respondent could not produce an employee work log.

ORDER

It is hereby **ORDERED**, that Respondent is to immediately close. Prior to reopening, violations shall be remedied to the satisfaction of the Director of RIDOH by fulfilling the conditions as set forth below:

- I. Respondent must develop and incorporate into its written control plan a strategy to prevent the violations listed above from reoccurring and shall incorporate, but not be limited to, the following:
- a. Respondent shall require all employees in its establishment to wear cloth face coverings unless physical distancing can be continuously maintained, or an exception applies. In accordance with Section 7.4.1(3)(a) of the Safe Regulations, Respondent shall deny access to its establishment to any employee who refuses to wear a cloth face covering when required by the Safe Regulations unless an exception applies.

- b. Respondent shall designate a point of contact who is familiar with applicable Executive Orders and the Safe Regulations, and who will work with RIDOH on testing, contact tracing, case investigation, isolation and quarantine follow up.
 - c. Respondent shall develop, maintain, and ensure compliance with a written plan for the safe operation of the establishment.
 - d. Respondent shall ensure compliance with its plan for safe operation, required pursuant to Section 7.4.1(A)(1) of the Safe Regulations, including compliance with, among other things, procedures consistent with the Safe Regulations relative to physical distancing at all times, to the extent feasible, and additional measures to be taken in high traffic, communal, or other areas where physical distancing is not feasible.
 - e. Respondent shall ensure the performance of environmental cleaning of its establishment once per day and maintain records documenting such environmental cleaning.
 - f. Respondent shall clean all high touch surfaces in accordance with CDC guidelines, in accordance with its specific industry, and maintain records documenting such cleaning.
 - g. Respondent shall maintain an employee work log that identifies the full name, phone number, and the date and time of all shifts worked by each employee. This work log must be maintained for at least thirty (30) days.
- II. Once completed, said written plan must be emailed to DBR.CovidTaskForce@dbr.ri.gov for approval. You will be notified whether your updated plan has been approved.
- III. Once approved, you still may not reopen until after each employee has been interviewed by RIDOH to ensure that none has symptoms of COVID-19. In accordance with Section 7.4.1(A)(2) of the Safe Regulations, any employee exhibiting multiple symptoms of COVID-19 or who is COVID-19 positive shall be denied access to the establishment. To schedule these interviews and

your reinspection, please submit a copy of your worklog for the past two weeks to

Ellen.Ruggieri@health.ri.gov.

Entered this 4th Day of November 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole Alexander-Scott". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nicole" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Alexander-Scott".

Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH
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