



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

**ELIZABETH M. TANNER, ESQ.
IN HER CAPACITY AS CHAIR OF THE
RHODE ISLAND COVID-19 ENFORCEMENT
TASK FORCE**

**IN THE MATTER OF:
Exchange Street Cafe
Violations of Executive Orders and
RI Department of Health Regulations**

NOTICE OF VIOLATION AND COMPLIANCE ORDER

Now comes the Chair (“Chair”) of the Rhode Island COVID-19 Enforcement Task Force (“Task Force”) and pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 23-1-20, Executive Orders 20-32, 20-40, and 20-79, and Rhode Island Department of Health (“RIDOH”) regulation 216-RICR-50-15-7 (“Safe Regulations”), determines that there are reasonable grounds to believe that Exchange Street Cafe (“Respondent”) is in violation of Executive Orders and/or the Safe Regulations, and provides notice thereof.

REASONABLE GROUNDS FOR DETERMINATION OF VIOLATION

- I. Respondent is a dining establishment located at 49 Exchange Street in Pawtucket.
- 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 September 10, 2020, a Task Force inspector met with owner Andrzej Pliszka (“Owner”) and conducted a Healthy Environment inspection of the Respondent. The inspector

performed a checklist inspection based on the Safe Regulations and determined that Respondent scored a 7/11 for overall requirements and a 4/5 for dining requirements. After the inspection, the inspector provided information and resources to the Owner to help Respondent achieve full compliance. This included a recommendation to the Respondent on how to access www.ReopeningRI.com and the relevant websites for the Executive Orders, rules, regulations, and guidance.

- IV. On or about October 14, 2020, a different Task Force inspector conducted a reinspection of the Respondent. The inspector met with the Owner and performed a checklist inspection based on the Safe Regulations. The inspector determined that the Respondent scored a 6/12 for overall requirements and a 2/5 for dining requirements.
- V. Therefore, as a result of the Respondent's continued 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.

ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

The following alleged violations stem from the October 14, 2020 reinspection.

- I. 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. Despite providing information and resources to the Owner on September 10, 2020, the Respondent made no corrective measures and displayed a lack of understanding of the applicable Executive Orders and the Safe Regulations. The inspector concluded, therefore, that there was no point of contact who is familiar with the applicable Executive Orders and the Safe Regulations.

- II. 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 still could not produce a written plan.
- III. 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. Respondent admitted to not having the required plan and the inspector observed that there were no measures in place to ensure that physical distancing was maintained.
- IV. Respondent is in violation of Section 7.4.1(A)(4) of the Safe Regulations, which requires each covered entity to ensure the placement of posters or signs at entry to its establishments educating any individual at the establishment concerning entry screening, required physical distancing, use of cloth face coverings, and other subjects as provided in guidance issued by RIDOH. Although some of the required information was posted, the inspector observed that information pertaining the wearing of cloth face coverings was missing and concluded, therefore, that the Respondent failed to ensure the placement of all required posters.
- 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 and to maintain records documenting such environmental cleaning. Upon request, the Respondent could not produce the required 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.

- VII. Respondent is in violation of Section 7.4.2(A)(1)(a) of the Safe Regulations, which requires that tables be separated by at least eight (8) feet from table edge to table edge or to allow six (6) feet spacing between seated customers at different tables unless separated by a physical, non-porous barrier of an appropriate height. The inspector observed that numerous tables were not separated by a barrier of any kind and were neither spaced at least eight (8) feet from table edge to table edge nor allowed six (6) feet of spacing between seated customers at different tables.
- VIII. Respondent is in violation of Section 7.4.2(A)(2) of the Safe Regulations, which prohibits self-service seating. The inspector observed that patrons were allowed to seat themselves without assistance by the Respondent.
- IX. Respondent is in violation of Section 7.4.2(A)(1)(a) of the Safe Regulations, which requires that information be collected from all visitors and other entrants who have interacted with others present on site for a period of 15-minutes or more solely for the purposes of contact tracing. Upon request, the Respondent admitted that they did not collect the required information for patrons who were on site of a period of 15 minutes or more.

ORDER

It is hereby ORDERED, that on or before the tenth (10th) day from service of this Notice of Violation and Compliance Order, Respondent shall remedy the above cited violations and come into full compliance with applicable Executive Orders and Regulations, by fulfilling the conditions as set forth below:

- I. 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.
- II. Respondent shall develop, maintain, and ensure compliance with a written plan for the safe operation of the establishment.

- III. 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.
- IV. Respondent shall ensure the placement of posters or signs at entry to its establishment educating any individual at the establishment concerning entry screening, required physical distancing, use of cloth face coverings, and other subjects as provided in guidance issued by RIDOH.
- V. Respondent shall ensure the performance of environmental cleaning of its establishment once per day and maintain records documenting such environmental cleaning.
- VI. 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.
- VII. Respondent shall ensure that tables are situated to allow separation of at least eight (8) feet from table edge to table edge or to allow six (6) feet spacing between seated customers at different tables unless separated by a physical, non-porous barrier of an appropriate height.
- VIII. Respondent shall ensure that all parties are seated by the Respondent and that no self-seating occurs.
- IX. Respondent shall ensure that information be collected from all visitors and other entrants who have interacted with others present on site for a period of 15-minutes or more solely for the purposes of contact tracing.

Failure to comply with this ORDER may result in the imposition of civil fines, the issuance of an immediate compliance order, and/or any other action authorized by regulation, the Act, or other applicable law.

Entered this 19th day of October 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth M. Tanner", is enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Elizabeth M. Tanner, Esq.
Chair
Rhode Island COVID-19 Enforcement Task Force
RI Department of Health
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Three Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908

**A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR A HEARING MAY BE FILED IN WRITING WITHIN
TEN DAYS AFTER THIS NOTICE**