To prevent the spread of the disease caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19), the State of Alaska is issuing this Order based on its authority under the Public Health Disaster Emergency Declaration signed by Governor Mike Dunleavy on March 11, 2020.

This Order remains in effect until amended, rescinded, or superseded by further Order of the Governor.

Certain emergency travel is imperative during the COVID-19 pandemic for both public health and safety as well as community well-being.

I. ORDER APPLICABILITY

The order is applicable to Alaskan communities that are removed from the road system, have a population smaller than 3,000 as of the effective date of this order, and do not house a Critical Access Hospital, Sole Community Hospital or Acute Care Hospital (“Small Community”).

II. SMALL COMMUNITY TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AND EXCEPTIONS

a. A Small Community may adopt travel restrictions that are more restrictive than otherwise permitted in Health Mandate 012 subject to the limitations below.

b. Notwithstanding Subsection II.a. above, Small Communities may not prohibit or restrict in any manner the following travel:

   i. Emergency First Responders (includes fire, ambulatory services, and other similar emergency first responders);

   ii. Law Enforcement acting within their official duties (this includes federal, state and local law enforcement personnel, as well as corrections personnel);

   iii. Office of Children’s Services personnel responding to reports of child abuse and neglect and insuring child safety;

   iv. Essential Governmental Services personnel needed to ensure the continuing operations of government agencies including to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

   v. Persons engaged in subsistence fishing and in the fishing industry including
the fisherman, processors, guides, and transporters of the fish as well of those under contract with the fisherman, processors, guides, and transporters for provisioning; and

vi. Residents returning to the resident’s home from outside the Small Community that show no signs or symptoms of COVID-19.

c. A Small Community may, in regards to Essential Government Services personnel traveling pursuant to Subsection II.b.iv., take the following actions:

   i. Require personnel to wear face coverings as recommended in Health Alert 010 issued April 3, 2020 by the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) when personnel are in the Small Community;

   ii. Reasonably limit access of personnel to laundromats, grocery stores, gas stations, convenience stores, and hardware stores to certain hours of the day to limit the physical interaction of residents and personnel; and

   iii. Prohibit personnel from entering residences in the community that are not their own lodgings.

d. A Small Community may, in regards to personnel traveling pursuant to Subsection II.b.v. and businesses employing such personnel, take the following actions:

   i. Require businesses to submit the travel plan or protocol that the business submitted to the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development pursuant to Health Mandate 010 or 012 to the community, and the Small Community may enforce the provisions of that plan;

   ii. Require businesses to provide their plan for how they intend to quarantine personnel who develop a fever, cough or shortness of breath (collectively “Symptoms”) while in the Small Community;

   iii. Require businesses to provide their plan for how they intend to provide their own medical evacuation;

   iv. Require screening for Symptoms a minimum of 48 hours (“Health Screening”) prior to traveling to the Small Community and prohibit personnel who manifest any Symptoms during this screening from travelling to the Small Community;

   v. Upon arrival in the Small Community, require a Health Screening, if requested and reasonably available, and prohibit personnel who manifest Symptoms from staying in the Small Community;

   vi. Require all personnel covered by Subsection II.b.v to wear face coverings as recommended in Health Alert 010 issued April 3, 2020 by DHSS when personnel are outside their personal lodgings and in the Small Community;
vii. Reasonably limit access of all personnel covered by Subsection II.b.v to laundromats, grocery stores, gas stations, convenience stores, and hardware stores to certain hours of the day to limit the physical interaction of residents and personnel; and

viii. Prohibit all personnel covered by Subsection II.b.v from entering residences in the community that are not their own lodgings.

All personnel covered by Subsection II.b.v traveling to work in a Small Community from outside the State of Alaska must comply with Health Mandate 010, including the requirement to self-quarantine for 14 days once they arrive. Such personnel required to self-quarantine may do so at their work location in the Small Community in which they will ultimately work, or within 50 miles of any Alaskan community on the road system that has a population greater than 25,000 people.

e. A Small Community may require its residents returning to the village pursuant to Subsection II.b.vi. to self-quarantine in the individual’s residence for up to 14 days following their return and take other reasonable measures in order to prevent that individual from spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.

III. DUTIES OF AIR CARRIERS AND OTHER TRAVEL RELATED BUSINESSES

a. Air carriers and other travel related business conducting travel to Small Communities shall inquire if travelers are permitted to travel under this order and shall rely upon a traveler’s assurance that they are eligible to travel. Air carriers and other travel related businesses shall have no other duty or obligation to verify that travelers meet the criteria for permissible travel under this order.