Information for County Businesses and Business Leaders about California Strike Teams

Monterey County has been notified that state strike teams will be visiting our area.

Strike teams are part of California’s strategy to curb the rising numbers of COVID-19 cases and are made up of inspectors from state agencies including Alcohol Beverage Control, CalOSHA, California Highway Patrol, Barbering and Cosmetology, Business Oversight, Consumer Affairs, Food and Agriculture, Labor Commissioner’s Office and the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development.

State teams have selected Monterey County because it was recently placed on the state ‘watch list’ due to exceeding health indicators and they will be targeting certain sectors/operations such as bars, restaurants as well as other sectors/facilities that that may be putting employees as well as customers at risk of exposure to COVID-19. These teams are independent from the County but also plan to confer with the County about areas of concern. We understand the Teams will focus on education, compliance and enforcement.

There will be no advance warning of any visit by these state inspectors, which is similar to any other state or county inspection for a regulated or permitted business. Please continue to follow all state health guidelines and practices to keep both your customers and staff healthy.

If you are not sure about compliance for your business, here are some resources:

- Read and review state guidance for your industry which can be found on the California State or Monterey County Health Department websites.
- If you are a business which is regulated at the county level, such as a restaurant or tattoo parlor, review checklists and guidelines on the Monterey County Environmental Health or appropriate agency website.
- If you are regulated by a state agency, such as Alcohol Beverage Control or any of the other agencies participating in the strike team effort, please visit that agency’s website for information or review requirements specifically related to your license.

The more we can reduce risk and improve our county health indicators, the sooner we can stop additional health restrictions and allow more businesses to reopen.

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