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Client Alert: MA Governor Orders Prohibition Against On-Premises Bar and Restaurant Operations Due to COVID-19

By Adam Barnosky on March 16, 2020



On March 15, 2020, stemming from concerns about COVID-19, Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker issued an order prohibiting on-premises bar and restaurant operations.

The order, effective Tuesday, March 17 through April 5, 2020 (unless otherwise extended) states, in part “**Any restaurant, bar or establishment that offers food or drink shall not permit on-premises consumption of food or drink; provided that such establishments may continue to offer food for take-out and by delivery provided they follow social distancing set forth in Department of Public Health guidance.**” The order also bans gatherings of 25 people in a single room or venue.

The text of the order can be found [here](#).

Adam Barnosky is a shareholder and co-leads the firm's Hospitality & Retail Services Practice Group. Adam represents various professionals and companies within the hospitality industry, including national hotel brands, James Beard-nominated chefs, industry-recognized fast-casual companies, and numerous premier restaurateurs included in Boston Magazine's Annual "50 Best Restaurants" List. Adam can be reached at arb@riw.com, (617) 570-3519, or on Twitter at [@adambarnosky](https://twitter.com/adambarnosky).

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