

COVID-19 Help for Small Businesses

Rollback of MIOSHA Requirements

June 22, 2021

Today, on the same day that Michigan's Department of Health and Human Services COVID-19 restrictions expire for places of public accommodation, the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration has also rolled back its workplace safety requirements. The MIOSHA COVID-19 emergency rules, effective today, now align with Federal OSHA's Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS). The updated MIOSHA rules, which rescind the emergency rules issued on May 24, 2021, expire on December 22, 2021.

The updated MIOSHA rules are significant in two respects: (1) they focus on health care settings where known or suspected COVID-19 patients may be present; and (2) allow employers in non-health care settings to use their "best judgment" in determining whether to maintain mask and social distance requirements. In other words, unless your business operates in the health care industry, mask and social distancing requirements are optional. But MIOSHA nevertheless recommends following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and OSHA. If you have questions about MIOSHA's updated rules and with updating your COVID-19 policies, the GMH Coronavirus Task Force is here to help! Please contact any of the below lawyers for more Coronavirus support.

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