

STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

RSA UNION BUILDING

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Kimberly G. Boswell Commissioner

Kay Ivey Governor

MEMORANDUM

From: Kimberly G. Boswell, Commissioner Lumberly G. Boswell

Date: November 17 655

Date: November 17, 2023

RE:

COVID Quarantine and Isolation Protocol Update

The CDC has updated guidelines regarding the above. The new guidelines require isolation from the onset of symptoms regardless of when a positive test for COVID is confirmed.

The ADMH is implementing new protocols to reflect this change. Effective immediately, employees who test positive will be required to quarantine for at least five calendar days from the onset of symptoms. Employees may return to work on day six provided they have had at least 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medications), and other symptoms are improving. Upon return, the employee will be required to wear a mask for five calendar days. Supervisors should apply the new requirements to any employee currently quarantined.

An updated version of the Supervisor Reporting Sheet and the Protocols for Employees and Supervisors will be available on our website soon.

All other previously established protocols remain in place. Employees are encouraged to continue practicing mitigation strategies such as social distancing, consistent handwashing, cleaning of workstations daily, and daily monitoring of their health condition with particular attention towards COVID related symptoms before arriving to work. Employees who believe their symptoms are COVID related should contact their supervisor and are encouraged to get tested.

All ADMH supervisors and employees should read and follow current protocols which will be accessible on our website. Should you have questions regarding COVID Protocols, you may contact Bryan Penn (bryan.penn@mh.alabama.gov). Questions regarding leave or other personnel issues can be addressed to Brooke Hibbard (brooke.hibbard@mh.alabama.gov).

Supervisor reporting sheets should be submitted to <u>covid.report@mh.alabama.gov</u>

These updated protocols are an indicator of the progress we are making in reducing the impact of COVID on all our lives. Your continued support and diligence are appreciated.

