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California News Publishers Association



Governor's statewide stay at home order exempts newsgatherers

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Gov. Gavin Newsom's unprecedented Executive Order N-33-20, issued on March 19, which requires all individuals living in California to stay at home includes an exception for certain types of businesses "as needed to maintain continuity of operations of the federal critical infrastructure sectors."

The 16 critical infrastructure sectors referenced in the Order were developed by the federal Department of Homeland Security and include a sector for communications but it is limited to only broadcast communications with no mention of newspapers. On page 9 of the guidance <u>memo</u> released by the Governor, however, exempted from the stay at home order are news media workers.

Specifically, the memo recognizes as essential critical infrastructure personnel "workers who support radio, television, and media service, including, but not limited to front line news reporters, studio, and technicians for newsgathering and reporting."

CNPA advises members to provide access to the Governor's memo to reporters, photographers and other personnel who, as part of their jobs, have a need to move about away from their homes.

Posted in <u>Legislative Bulletin</u>

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