COLUMBIA COUNTY

Board of Supervisors

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE

May 14, 2020

Yesterday, the Wisconsin Supreme Court overturned the Safer at Home Emergency Order #28. This ruling takes effect immediately.

The Executive Committee of the Columbia County Board met today and unanimously voted to follow the Wisconsin Supreme Court decision. The Executive Committee's action means that Columbia County <u>will not</u> create a local Safer at Home order to replace Emergency Order #28.

In light of the Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling, many businesses that have been closed will choose to open their doors immediately, and many others will choose to expand their operations. All Columbia County businesses should continue to follow CDC guidelines for social distancing, cleaning, and disinfecting whenever possible. They should also consider the guidelines provided by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation at https://wedc.org/ and consult with their respective trade or business organizations to identify industry best practices to safely welcome back employees and customers.

Businesses may also want to check with their legal counsel to see how to open safely during a pandemic while also considering legal implications of cases that may be related to their business operations.

The Columbia County Board of Supervisors encourages all Columbia County residents to continue to follow good public health practices, including:
• Maintain at least 6 feet between yourself and others;
• Do not congregate in groups larger than 10 people without physical distancing between groups;
• Wash your hands frequently;
• Disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
• If you are considered high risk due to age or health condition continue to remain safer at home and take precautions – only going out for essential reasons and working from home as much as possible.

A strong economy is vital to public health and safety. We can't have healthy residents and a healthy community without people working and our businesses providing the goods and services needed. We simply want everyone to continue to be safe.

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