#### **BELIZE:**

# PUBLIC HEALTH (REFORM) (PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE) (COVID-19) REGULATIONS, 2022

#### ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

#### **PART I**

### **Preliminary**

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Interpretation.
- 3. Application.

#### **PART II**

#### **Protocols**

- 4. Curfew.
- 5. Wearing of face masks.
- 6. Social distancing, etc.
- 7. Entry into government offices, etc.
- 8. Approved testing institutions and testing kits.
- 9. Restriction of gatherings for social purposes.
- 10. Exemption on the restriction of gatherings for social purposes.
- 11. Restriction on social activities.

- 12. Social distancing protocols and other requirements for businesses and offices.
- 13. Redeployment of frontline workers.
- 14. Tour operators and tour guides to present immunization card.
- 15. Exercising and sports.
- 16. Closure of bars, rum shops, etc.
- 17. Casinos and other gaming establishments.
- 18. Restriction on gymnasiums.
- 19. Churches and other places of worship.
- 20. Restriction on spas, beauty salons and barber shops.
- 21. Restriction on restaurants, saloons, diners, etc. and street food vendors.
  - Opening of the Corozal Free Zone.
  - Employers to implement a shift system.
- 26. Transportation.

Operating remotely.

Schools.

22.

23.

24.

25.

# PART III

# Entry through the airport

- 27. Requirements for foreign tourist prior to arrival.
- 28. Testing requirements.

- 29. Quarantine.
- 30. Compliance with health and safety protocols.
- 31. Fees for testing.
- 32. Offence and penalty.
- 33. Recovery by civil proceedings.

#### **PART IV**

# Entry through land and sea ports

- 34. Closure of land and sea ports.
- 35. Entry of persons returning to Belize at any land or sea port.
- 36. Permission to enter Belize through land or sea port.
- 37. Offence and penalty for entering or exiting Belize contrary to regulation 34.
- 38. Procedure on arrest and charge of persons entering or exiting Belize illegally.
- 39. Approval for importation of tests and approval to conduct testing.
- 40. Mandatory quarantine.

#### **PART V**

# Entry of foreign tourists through land ports

- 41. Entry of foreign tourists at Santa Elena and Belize Western Borders.
- 42. Testing requirements.

- 43. Procedure on testing positive for COVID-19.
- 44. Requirement to complete health declaration form.
- 45. Compliance with health and safety protocols.
- 46. Cost for testing.
- 47. Offence and penalty.
- 48. Recovery by civil proceedings.

# **PART VI**

# Offences and penalties

- 49. Offences in relation to mandatory quarantine.
- 50. Offence of creating or being in possession of fake immunization card.
- 51. Penalty for employers and employees.
- 52. General offence and penalty.

# **PART VII**

# Violation Tickets

- 53. Issue of violation ticket.
- 54. Form of violation ticket.
- 55. Fine to be paid.
- 56. Time for payment of fine.
- 57. Further application of the Summary Jurisdiction (Procedure) Act.

- 58. Places for payment of fine.
- 59. Use of fines paid.

## **PART VIII**

#### Miscellaneous

- 60. COVID-19 Enforcement Unit.
- 61. Repeal and savings.
- 62. Commencement.

SCHEDULE II SCHEDULE III SCHEDULE IV

**BELIZE:** 

#### STATUTORY INSTRUMENT

No. 15 of 2022

REGULATIONS made by the Minister in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 82A of the Public Health (Reform) Act, Chapter 40 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011, and all other powers thereunto it enabling.

(Gazetted 14th January, 2022)

WHEREAS, in the opinion of the Minister there is the imminent threat of further community spread of COVID-19 as a result of the numerous cases present in the countries neighbouring Belize;

**AND WHEREAS**, it is necessary to prevent the spread of **COVID-19** from persons arriving at any port by land or water;

**NOW THEREFORE,** in exercise of the powers conferred upon the Minister by section 82A of the Public Health (Reform) Act, the following Regulations is made.

#### PART I

**Preliminary** 

1. These Regulations may be cited as the

Citation.

PUBLIC HEALTH (REFORM) (PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE) (COVID 19) REGULATIONS, 2022. Interpretation.

- 2. For the purposes of these Regulations-
- "Act" means the Public Health (Reform) Act;
- "airport" means the Phillip Goldson International Airport;
- "approved facility" or "approved facilities" means a sporting complex or sporting venue that has been approved to host sporting activities or events allowed under these Regulations;
- "approved hotel or tourist accommodation" means a hotel or tourist accommodation that certified as Gold Standard;
- "BPO" means Business Process Outsourcing;
- "COVID-19" means the disease caused by the virus SARS-CoV2 which is an infectious disease which emerged during 2019 and was declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organisation on 11 March, 2020;

CAP. 275.

- "Belize Tourism Board" means the Belize Tourism Board established under section 3 of the Belize Tourism Board Act;
- "Designated Officer" means any public officer employed with the Ministry of Health or the Department of Immigration or Nationality Services or any person designated by the Authority to carry out any function under these Regulations;
- "Enforcement Unit" means the COVID-19 Enforcement Unit established under regulation 60;
- "essential business" means any business involved in tourism, health, banking, law enforcement, agriculture or food;

Schedule I.

- "essential service" means the offices listed in Schedule I;
- "essential worker" means an employee of an essential service;

"foreign home owner" means a foreigner who owns real property home in Belize;

"foreign tourist" means any person that travels to Belize using the passport of a country other than Belize;

"frontline workers" include-

- (a) health care workers;
- (b) officers and staff of the Belize Police Department;
- (c) personnel and staff of Coast Guard;
- (d) personnel and staff of the Belize Defence Force;
- (e) teachers;
- (f) tourism workers;
- (g) officers and staff of the Customs and Excise Department;
- (h) officers and staff of the Department of Border Management and Immigration Services;
- (i) the Judiciary and staff of the Judiciary;
- *(j)* operators of public transportation;
- (k) officers and staff of the Transport Department;
- (1) officers of public utility services;
- (m) employees of a BPO;

- (n) officers and staff of the Department of Civil Aviation;
- (o) employees of security companies;
- (p) employees of the Belize Post Office; and
- (q) any person that works or is employed at any port;

"hotel or tourist accommodation" means any premises being operated as a hotel or tourist accommodation in any part of Belize and licensed for that purpose under the Hotels and

Tourist Accommodation Act:

CAP. 285.

"immunized" or "immunization" means having received the required number of doses, as specified in Column 2 of Schedule II, for any of the COVID-19 vaccines specified in Column I of Schedule II:

Schedule II.

- "minor" means a person under the age of sixteen years;
- "open air restaurant" "outdoor restaurant" or "al fresco dining restaurant" means a restaurant that is not enclosed within a building or other facility and which is out in the open or is sufficiently out in the open to have air naturally circulating within;

"permanent resident" means a person granted permanent residency in accordance with section 21A of the Belizean Nationality Act;

CAP. 161.

"proof of immunization" means a digital copy or hard copy of a COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card issued and stamped by the Ministry responsible for health in Belize or by a medical institution approved by the Ministry responsible for health in Belize, or by the relevant authority of a foreign state, whether laminated or preserved in any other form; "proprietor" means the owner or proprietor of any hotel or tourist accommodation, and the term includes any person who is responsible for the management of, or who is in control of, the hotel or tourist accommodation;

"PCR test" means a test that detects the presence of the SARS-CoV2 in an infected person's body;

"public transportation" means any form of transportation available to the public, which runs on fixed or established routes and charges a fare;

"public utility" includes services of electricity, water, telecommunications, cable and internet service providers;

"Qualified Retired Person" means any person designated CAP. 62. as a Qualified Retired Person under section 3 of the Retired Persons (Incentives) Act;

> "Quarantine Authority" means the Director of Health Services:

> "rapid test" means a test for the rapid, qualitative detection of the nucleocapsid protein antigen from SARS-CoV2 in human nasal swab or throat swab specimen; and

> "social distancing" includes avoiding crowds, refraining from touching one another and maintaining a distance of no less than six feet from other persons.

3. These Regulations shall apply to the entire country of Application. Belize.

#### PART II

#### **Protocols**

Curfew.

**4**.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19

and maintaining peace and public order, a curfew is hereby imposed commencing on January 16th 2022, and ending on February 15th, 2022 at 4:00 a.m., as follows-

- (a) from Sunday to Thursday, during the hours of 11:00 p.m. until 4:00 a.m. of the following morning;" and
- (b) from Friday to Saturday, during the hours of 12:00 a.m. until 4:00 a.m.
- (2) Notwithstanding sub-regulation (1), every minor shall be and remain within the confines of a private property during the hours of 8:00 p.m. until 4:00 a.m. of the following morning, provided that a minor may move in any public road during the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. from Sunday to Thursday and during the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m. on Friday and Saturday if that minor is accompanied by his parent or guardian.
- (3) For the purposes of sub-regulations (1) and (2), no person shall be on the streets or in any public place or on any public road between the hours specified in sub-regulations (1) or (2), as the case may be.
- (4) Sub-regulations (1) and (3) shall not apply to any members, who are on duty, of the security forces, Customs and Excise Department, Department of Immigration Services only, public utilities, any frontline health care provider on duty working for the Ministry responsible for health (including hospitals which are statutory bodies), or to any person who possesses a pass badge issued by the Minister responsible for home affairs or a person authorised by him.
- (5) A person who contravenes this regulation commits an offence and shall be issued a violation ticket in accordance with Part VII.

Wearing of face masks.

**5**.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19 every person shall, at all times and in any place, whether public or private, wear a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering,

provided that children under the age of six years old shall not be required to wear a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering, and

provided further, that neck gaiters, fishing face masks, ski masks, any closed tube of fabric or other similar face, neck or head covering that resembles any of the aforementioned types of masks or which is designed to expose only part of the face, are prohibited.

- (2) Notwithstanding sub-regulation (1) a person shall not be required to wear a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering if that person is—
  - (a) at a private residence;
  - (b) exercising;
  - (c) swimming; or
  - (d) driving alone or driving with members of the same household in a motor vehicle.
- (3) No owner or manager of a business, office or establishment shall allow any person to enter or remain in that business, office or establishment without wearing and keeping on, a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering.
- (4) It shall be a defence to any proceedings under these Regulations for an owner or manager of a business, office or establishment to show that he took all reasonable measures to ensure compliance with sub-regulation (3).

- (5) The owner or manager of a business, office or establishment may prescribe the types of face masks or other face (nose and mouth) covering which are permissible for entry into that business, office or establishment, but which shall not include any of the types of masks prohibited under sub-regulation (1).
  - (6) A person commits an offence if that person-
    - (a) does not wear a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering as required by this regulation; or
    - (b) does not wear a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering properly so that the face mask or other (nose and mouth) covering covers both the nose and mouth.
- (7) A person who commits an offence under subregulation (6) shall be issued a violation ticket in accordance with Part VII.
- **6.**–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, every person shall practice social distancing.

Social distancing, etc.

- (2) A person who contravenes this regulation commits an offence and is shall be issued a violation ticket in accordance with Part VII.
- 7.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, every essential worker and any person who wishes to enter a government office or the office of a statutory body, whether for work or for accessing services shall, prior to entering that office, present proof of immunization, together with a valid identification card, showing that the person is either immunized or has received the first dose of a vaccine requiring more than one dose, and the date for the second dose of the vaccine has not elapsed.

Entry into government offices, etc.

- (2) Notwithstanding sub-regulation (1), the Chief Executive Officer, Head of Department, or head of a statutory body, as the case may be, shall allow entry to a person seeking services of that office, other than an essential Social distancing, etc. worker, who is not an employee of that government office or the office of a statutory body and who is not immunized, if that person—
  - (a) has an appointment; and
  - (b) presents any of the following-
    - (i) a negative rapid test or PCR test taken not more than two weeks prior to the date of the appointment; or
    - (ii) an immunization card which shows that the person has received the first dose of a vaccine requiring more than one dose, and the date for the second dose of the vaccine has not elapsed.
- (3) A person who works in a government office or the office of a statutory body and who fails to comply with subregulation (1) shall-
  - (a) not be allowed to enter that government office or office of a statutory body; and
  - (b) be deemed absent from work and subject to disciplinary proceedings in accordance with any law that regulates the services of that person.
- (4) Every person having to enter any of the buildings listed below shall be required to present a negative rapid test or negative PCR test taken not more than two weeks before the date of entering such building or an immunization card

which shows that the person has received the first dose of a vaccine and the date for the second dose of the vaccine has not elapsed-

- (a) court, for the purposes of attending as a juror, witness, party to court proceedings or in furtherance of compliance with an order of the court;
- (b) police station, for the purposes of making a police report;
- (c) prison for the purpose of being remanded or serving a prison sentence.
- (5) This regulation shall not apply to-
  - (a) a child under the age of twelve years;
  - (b) a person seeking emergency medical attention at a public medical institution, provided that such person shall submit to testing by the Ministry responsible for health if that person is hospitalized during that emergency visit;
  - (c) a person taken to a police station for the purposes of being detained, questioned or charged, provided that such a person shall submit to testing by the Ministry responsible for health immediately after being detained, questioned or charged.
- (6) Every person who contravenes sub-regulation (1) or (2) commits an offence and shall be issued a violation ticket in accordance with Part VII.
- **8.**–(1) The owner or operator of a medical institution who desires that medical institution to conduct testing for the

Approved testing institutions and testing kits. Schedule III.

purposes of these Regulations, shall apply to the Ministry responsible for health for approval of that medical institution.

- (2) For the purposes of regulations 7(2) and 7(4), only a negative PCR test or a negative antigen rapid test from any of the approved medical institutions specified in Schedule III shall be accepted.
- (3) For the purposes of regulations 7(2) and 7(4), the following shall be the only approved antigen rapid test kits-
  - (a) SD Biosensor;
  - (b) Surescreen;
  - (c) Sofia 2;
  - (d) Abbott Panbio; and
  - (e) Carestart.
- (4) The Minister may, by Notice published in the Gazette, add to or remove from the list of approved rapid antigen test kits in sub-regulation (3).
- (5) Every person who contravenes sub-regulation (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars.

Restriction of gatherings for social purposes.

- 9.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, no person shall gather for social purposes in numbers of more than ten persons at a time who are not of the same household, anywhere in Belize, whether in any public or private place.
- (2) Notwithstanding sub-regulation (1), members of the National Assembly and persons involved in the functioning of

any sitting of the National Assembly may gather in numbers of more than ten persons at any sitting of the National Assembly.

- (3) Every person commits an offence if that person hosts or attends a gathering of more than ten persons who are not from the same household.
- (4) A person who commits an offence under sub-regulation (3) is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars.
- **10**.–(1) The Minister may, on application made in writing, exempt any person from the restriction of gatherings for a social purpose under regulation 7, if the Minister considers it necessary to do so.

Exemption on the restriction of gatherings for social purposes.

- (2) An exemption granted by the Minister responsible for health and wellness may be subject to such terms and conditions, or applicable only in specified circumstances or in relation to such activities as specified in the instrument granting the exemption.
  - (3) Every exemption shall be published in the Gazette.
- 11.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, no person shall host or attend–

Restriction on social activities.

- (a) a private gathering which includes any person from outside of the immediate household;
- (b) a wedding which hosts more than ten persons other than the bride, bridegroom, official witnesses and the marriage officer;
- (c) a banquet, ball or reception;

- (d) any social event;
- (e) a funeral, except ten members of the immediate family and at least one officiant and essential mortuary staff,

provided that a funeral allowed under this paragraph shall be for no more than one hour and shall only be held at a cemetery; and

provided further that no wake or repass shall be allowed; or

- (f) a meeting of a fraternal society, private or social club or civic association or organization.
- (2) Subject to sub-regulation (3), a person may host-
  - (a) a recreational or competitive sporting event for a non-contact sport; or
  - (b) a recreational or competitive sporting event for contact sport if the persons engaged in the sporting activity are immunized.
- (3) A sporting event or activity that is allowed under these Regulations-
  - (a) shall be open to fully vaccinated spectators at fifty per centum of the capacity of the approved facility; and
  - (b) shall require proof of immunization card for access to that approved facility.

- (4) A person who commits an offence under this regulation is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one thousand dollars.
- **12**.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, every business, office or establishment allowed to operate under these Regulations, including a government office, shall–

Social distancing protocols and other requirements for businesses and offices.

- (a) abide by social distancing protocols; and
- (b) ensure that every employee wears a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering.
- (2) If the square footage of a business, office or establishment, including a government office, allows for a person to maintain a distance of six feet from other persons, that business, office or establishment, including a government office shall-
  - (a) ensure that all customers and staff maintain a distance of not less than six feet in or outside their business, office or establishment;
  - (b) determine the number of persons that may be permitted in that business, office or establishment, including a government office, at any one time, provided that the determined number, shall not be more than fifty per centum of its capacity;
  - (c) place distance markers six feet apart, indicating where a customer must stand in a line at a check out point; or
  - (d) place distance markers six feet apart on the outside of the establishment, indicating where a customer must stand while waiting to enter the business or office.

- (3) Every department store, hardware store, grocery store, dry goods store, shop and market shall employ a Peace Officer for every floor of that department store, hardware store, grocery store, dry goods store, shop and market if the square footage of that department store, hardware store, grocery store, dry goods store, shop and market is greater than two thousand square feet.
  - (4) A person employed as a Peace Officer shall-
    - (a) be a Justice of the Peace;
    - (b) ensure compliance with these Regulations by-
      - (i) the owner of every department store, hardware store, grocery store, dry goods store, and shop;
      - (ii) the proprietor of the land where the market is situated:
      - (iii) every person accessing services of the department store, hardware store, grocery store, dry goods store, shop and market;
    - (c) be paid an honorarium by the employer for the performance of his functions as a Peace Officer under these Regulations.
- (5) Notwithstanding sub-regulations (1) or (2)(b), every BPO company or business allowed to operate under these Regulations shall–
  - (a) operate only at fifty per centum of its capacity,

provided that every such person shall be immunized;

- (b) observe social distancing protocols;
- (c) ensure that every employee wears a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering;
- (d) install hand wash stations at the entrance and within the BPO company or business;
- (e) allow not more than two persons per table in the lunch of that BPO company or business;
- (f) limit the seating capacity of the lunch room of that BPO company or business to fifty per centum.
- (6) Every BPO company or business allowed to operate under these Regulations shall install or appoint a special internal auditor for COVID-19 who shall submit a written weekly report to the Ministry responsible for health detailing—
  - (a) the number of employees of the BPO company or business and the number of employees who presented themselves to work during the reported week;
  - (b) the number of floors being utilized for the operation of the BPO company or business;
  - (c) the number of supervisors per floor during the reported week;
  - (d) the number of employees who call in sick and who are working on a rotational basis;
  - (e) the protocols being implemented and observed by the BPO company or business; and
  - (f) any other information required by the Ministry responsible for health.

- (7) In addition to the requirement under sub-regulation (6), the special internal auditor for COVID-19 shall, on the first of every month, submit a written report to the Ministry responsible for health detailing–
  - (a) the name and immunization status of every employee allowed to report work in accordance with sub-regulation (5)(a); and
  - (b) the name of every employee who has not been immunized as a result of a recent COVID-19 infection.
- (8) The Ministry responsible for health or an officer of the security forces may carry out spot checks and inspections of any business, office or establishment allowed to operate under this regulation to ensure compliance with these Regulations.

Redeployment of frontline workers.

13. Every frontline worker who works at a port of entry into and exit out of Belize shall be redeployed if that frontline worker is not immunized.

Tour operators and tour guides to present immunization card.

immunization card prior to entering any tourist site.

**14**.–(1) Every tour operator and tour guide shall present his

(2) A tour operator or tour guide who fails to present his immunization card shall be refused entry to the tourist site.

Exercising and sports.

- **15.**–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, exercise by walking, running, or cycling shall be allowed subject to the following conditions–
  - (a) a person shall practice social distancing protocols and maintain a minimum of six feet distance between other persons while exercising; and

- (b) a cyclist shall ride in single file only.
- (2) A person may engage in non-contact sports.
- (3) Notwithstanding regulations 5 and 6, persons participating in non-contact sports shall, while engaged in the sporting activity, be exempt from the following–
  - (a) practicing social distancing; or
  - (b) wearing a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering.
- (4) For the purpose of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, a person may engage in contact sports if that person is immunized.
- (5) A person who contravenes this regulation commits an offence and shall be issued a violation ticket in accordance with Part VII.
- **16**. For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and supressing the spread of infectious disease COVID-19, discotheques, bars, rum shops and night clubs shall be closed.

Closure of bars, rum shops, etc.

17.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of infectious disease COVID-19, casinos and gaming establishments shall be allowed to operate, subject to the following conditions–

Casinos and other gaming establishments.

- (a) all employees shall be immunized;
- (b) only patrons that are immunized shall be allowed to enter the casino or gaming establishment, provided that each patron shall present his COVID-19 vaccination card upon entry to any casino or gaming establishment as proof of immunization;

- all patrons and employees shall maintain physical distancing of no less than six feet in or outside the casino or gaming establishment;
   and
- (d) the number of patrons allowed to enter a casino or gaming establishment shall, at any one given time, be limited to fifty per centum of the capacity of the casino or gaming establishment; and
- (e) that all patrons and employees wear a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering.
- (2) The owner or operator of a casino or gaming establishment operating under this regulation shall-
  - (a) ensure that gaming machines are arranged or made available to be used in a way that allows for social distancing of six feet between patrons of the casino;
  - (b) install hand sanitizing stations at the entrance and throughout the casino or gaming establishment:
  - (c) install touchless hand sanitizing dispensers at every gaming table;
  - (d) limit the seating capacity at gaming tables to observe social distancing;
  - (e) place signs at the entrance and throughout the casino or gaming establishment, reminding patrons of social distancing protocols and the proper use of face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering;

- (f) ensure that the casino or gaming establishment is cleaned and sanitized twice a day;
- (g) ensure that gaming machines and tables are sanitized after every use;
- (h) keep a log of the name, contact number and temperature check of every patron entering the casino or gaming establishment for at least thirty days; and
- (i) any other health and safety protocols issued by the Ministry responsible for health.
- (3) Every casino or gaming establishment shall employ a Peace Officer for every floor of that casino or gaming establishment.
  - (4) A person employed as a Peace Officer shall-
    - (a) be a Justice of the Peace;
    - (b) ensure compliance with these Regulations by-
      - (i) the owner, operators and employees of every casino or gaming establishment;
      - (ii) the proprietor of the land where the casino or gaming establishment is situated;
      - (iii) every patron entering and inside a casino or gaming establishment.
    - (c) be paid an honorarium by the employer for the performance of his functions as a Peace Officer under these regulations.

(5) The Ministry responsible for health or an officer of the security forces may carry out spot checks and inspections of any casino or gaming establishment allowed to operate under this regulation to ensure compliance with these Regulations.

Restriction on gymnasiums.

- **18.**–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, gymnasiums shall be allowed to operate, subject to the following conditions–
  - (a) gymnasiums shall be properly ventilated;
  - (b) services offered shall be by appointment only;
  - (c) only fifty per centum of the building capacity shall be allowed to be in the gymnasium at any one time;
  - (d) social distancing shall be observed by all persons at the gymnasium.
- (2) The owner or operator of a gymnasium operating under this regulation shall-
  - (a) require that every person entering the gymnasium wear a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering,

provided that persons at the gymnasium shall not be required to wear a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering while exercising;

- (b) ensure that equipment are cleaned after every use; and
- (c) keep a log of the name, contact number and temperature check of every customer.

19.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, churches and other places of worship shall be allowed to operate in accordance with the following–

Churches and other places of worship.

- (a) services shall be for no more than one hour;
- (b) no more than fifty per centum of its building capacity shall be in attendance at any one given time;
- (c) persons in attendance shall wear a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering and adhere to social distancing protocols,

provided that the priest, pastor or other person conducting the service or sermon shall not be required to wear a mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering.

- (2) Every pastor, priest or other person responsible for conducting a service or sermon shall ensure compliance with this regulation.
- (3) Every pastor, priest or other person responsible for conducting a service or sermon who contravenes sub-regulation (2) commits an offence and shall be issued a violation ticket in accordance with Part VII.
- (4) Every pastor, priest or other person responsible for conducting a service or sermon convicted of a second or subsequent offence is liable, in addition to the penalty under sub-regulation (3), closure of that church or place of worship.
- **20.**–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, spas, beauty salons and barber shops shall be allowed to operate, subject to the following conditions–

Restriction on spas, beauty salons and barber shops.

- (a) services offered shall be by appointment only; and
- (b) only two customers, the customer being attended to and the customer who is waiting, shall be allowed to be in a spa, beauty salon or barber shop at any one time.
- (2) Notwithstanding sub-regulation (1)-
  - (a) if the square footage of a spa, beauty salon or barber shop is such that social distancing protocols cannot be observed between both customers, only one customer shall be allowed in the spa, beauty salon or barber shop at any one time; or
  - (b) if the square footage of a spa, beauty salon or barber shop is such that social distancing protocols can be observed, that spa, beauty salon or barber shop may determine the number of customers permitted in the spa, beauty salon or barber shop, provided that the determined number is proportionate to the square footage of the spa, beauty salon or barber shop and the social distancing protocols to be observed.

Restriction on restaurants, saloons, diners, etc. and street food vendors.

- **21**.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19 restaurants, saloons, diners and other similar establishments holding a restaurant licence shall be allowed to operate if the employees of that restaurant, saloon, dinner or other similar establishment are immunized.
- (2) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, street food vendors shall be allowed to operate.

- (3) Every street food vendor shall place distance markers six feet+ apart, indicating where a customer must stand.
- (4) Restaurants, saloons, diners and other similar establishments allowed to operate under this regulation may offer dining-in services by reservation only, for no more than fifty per centum of its seating capacity.
- (5) Notwithstanding sub-regulation (4), a restaurant that has proper ventilation or a restaurant that is an open air restaurant, outdoor restaurant, or an all fresco dining restaurant that is allowed to operate under this regulation may offer dining in services, by reservation only, for no more than seventy five per centum of its seating capacity.
- (6) Every restaurant allowed to offer dinning in services under sub-regulation (5) shall observe social distancing protocols.
- (7) Every restaurant, saloon, diner and other similar establishment allowed to operate under this regulation shall employ a Peace Officer who shall-
  - (a) be a Justice of the Peace; and
  - (b) ensure compliance with these Regulations by-
    - (i) the owner and employees of every restaurant, saloon, diner and other similar establishment allowed to operate under this regulation;
    - (ii) every patron accessing the restaurant, saloon, diner or other similar establishment.

Opening of the Corozal Free Zone.

- **22**.–(1) The Corozal Free Zone shall be opened and businesses, offices and other establishments located in the Corozal Free Zone shall be allowed to operate.
- (2) The Board of Directors of the Corozal Free Zone shall ensure that the temperature of every person entering the Corozal Free Zone is taken and logged.
- (3) Every owner or manager of a business, office or establishment operating in the Corozal Free Zone shall abide by guidelines issued by the Ministry responsible for health prior to conducting business in the Corozal Free Zone.

Schools.

- 23.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, schools that satisfy the guidelines and criteria on the Green Light Standard Safety Checklist and the School Readiness Checklist established by the Ministry responsible for education shall be allowed to open for face to face instruction.
- (2) Every school unable to satisfy the guidelines and criteria on the Green Light Standard Safety Checklist and the School Readiness Checklist established by the Ministry responsible for education shall remain closed and only operate online.

Employers to implement a shift system.

**24**. For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, every employer of a public or private business that is not an essential business shall implement a shift system for the employees of that business.

Operating remotely.

25.-(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19, every employer of a public or private business that is not an essential business, shall implement measures to allow their employees to operate remotely where that business is

one which the duties of the employee are capable of being performed from the employee's place of residence.

- (2) Employees who are permitted to work remotely under sub-regulation (1) shall-
  - (a) be available for work during that employee's normal working hours;
  - (b) stay at home and observe social distancing protocols and curfew impositions; and
  - (c) report to the employer as required or instructed.
- (3) Where an employee's assigned tasks at his place of employment can only be discharged at his place of employment, that employee shall report to work unless instructed by the employer not to report to the place of work in order to try to contain the spread of COVID-19.

# **26**.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19–

Transportation.

- (a) every person travelling on public transportation or private transportation shall wear a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering for the duration of the travel;
- (b) a person who is not wearing a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering, shall not be allowed by the operator or conductor of public transportation or private transportation to board the public transportation or private transportation; and
- (c) the operator and any conductor of, public transportation or private transportation shall at

all times during the travel, wear a face mask or other face (nose and mouth) covering.

- (2) The provision of public transportation or private transportation is limited to seventy-five per centum of the seating capacity of the public or private transportation.
- (3) While social distancing of six feet shall not be observed on public transportation or private transportation, every operator of public transportation or private transportation shall make available hand sanitizer for use by every passenger.
- (4) Every person travelling on a public bus is required to purchase a ticket which will entitle the holder to queue up, observing a distance of six feet between persons, for orderly boarding of the bus.
- (5) Every operator of public transportation arriving at a terminal in Belize shall instruct the passengers to dis-embark and that operator shall oversee the sanitization of the of public transportation by personnel on site at the terminal.
- (6) Prior to boarding public transportation at a terminal, every passenger shall wash and sanitize hands at the facilities provided at the terminal, and where passengers are picked up elsewhere than at a terminal where proper sanitization of hands could not occur, every passenger boarding that public transportation shall sanitize his hands using hand sanitizer that is provided by the operator of the public transportation as required under sub-regulation (3).
- (7) It shall be a defence to any proceedings under these Regulations for an operator or conductor of public transportation or private transportation to show that he took all reasonable measures to ensure compliance with his obligation under this regulation.

- (8) Without prejudice to the foregoing, all passengers, public transportation providers and private transportation providers shall abide by guidelines issued by the Ministry responsible for health, prior to boarding or disembarking from the public transportation or private transportation utilised.
- (9) For the purposes of this regulation, private transportation means transportation provided by tour operators.
- (10) Every operator of public transportation who contravenes this regulation commits an offence and shall be issued a violation ticket in accordance with Part VIII.
- (11) In addition to the penalty under sub-regulation (10), every operator of public transportation who is convicted of an offence under this regulation is liable to revocation of that operator's road service permit.

#### **PART III**

### Entry through the airport

**27.**–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of COVID-19, every foreign tourist shall, prior to arrival at the airport–

Requirements for foreign tourist prior to arrival.

- (a) reserve or book his stay at an approved hotel or tourist accommodation; and
- (b) make arrangements with the hotel or tourist accommodation at which he is staying to be transported to that hotel or tourist accommodation by any means of transportation provided by that hotel or tourist accommodation or by any other means of transportation authorised by the Belize Tourism Board.

- (2) A foreign tourist shall produce to a designated officer, upon being requested to do so, documentation to show to the satisfaction of the designated officer that the foreign tourist has made a reservation or booking at an approved hotel or tourist accommodation.
- (3) A foreign tourist who is unable to produce documentation to the satisfaction of a designated officer, showing his booking or reservation at an approved hotel or tourist accommodation, upon being requested to do so, may be denied entry into Belize and thereupon be required to return to his port of origin at his own expense at the earliest possible occasion.

Testing requirements.

- 28.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of COVID-19, every person who enters Belize through the airport, whether or not that person is immunized, shall submit to testing by the Ministry responsible for health if that person does not provide–
  - (a) a negative PCR test taken within 96 hours prior to arrival in Belize; or
  - (b) any other test for SARS-CoV2 approved by the Ministry responsible for health, taken within 48 hours prior to arrival in Belize.
- (2) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of COVID-19, every person who enters Belize through the airport and who has travelled from Botswana, Eswaniti, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa or Zimbabwe shall be put into mandatory quarantine for a period of ten days at a government designated quarantine facility in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry responsible for health.
- (3) Notwithstanding sub-regulation (1), every person below the age of five shall not-

- (a) be required to provide a PCR test or any other test for SARS-CoV2 upon entry into Belize through the airport; or
- (b) be subjected to testing for SARSCoV2.
- (4) Notwithstanding sub-regulation (1), every person with business concerns in Belize shall, upon arrival in Belize, provide a negative PCR test or other test for SARS-CoV2 approved by the Ministry responsible for health, taken within 96 hours prior to arrival.
- (5) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of COVID-19, notwithstanding that a person may provide a negative PCR test or other test for SARS-CoV2 approved by the Ministry responsible for health taken within 96 hours or 48 hours, as the case may be, prior to arrival in Belize, that person may be subjected to random testing by the Ministry responsible for health.
- (6) Any person who is not a Belizean who fails to comply with sub-regulations (1), (4) or (5) shall be denied entry into Belize.
  - (7) A person denied entry under sub-regulation (6) shall-
    - (a) be required to return to his port of origin at his own expense at the earliest occasion; and
    - (b) if unable to be immediately returned to his port of origin, at the person's own expense, be put into mandatory quarantine at a government designated quarantine facility at the direction of, and for a period of time as directed by, the Quarantine Authority and in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry responsible for health.

Quarantine.

- 29.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of COVID-19, any person entering Belize who tests positive for COVID-19 after being administered a PCR test, rapid test or other test for SARS-CoV2, shall, at the person's own expense, be put into mandatory quarantine at a government designated quarantine facility at the direction of, and for a period of time as directed by, the Quarantine Authority and in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry responsible for health.
- (2) A person who tests positive for COVID-19 may be discharged and declared recovered only by a health professional acting in accordance with the standardized protocols of the Ministry responsible for health.
- (3) A person who tests positive for COVID-19 commits an offence if that person-
  - (a) fails to go into mandatory quarantine;
  - (b) while in mandatory quarantine, breaches any direction of the Quarantine Authority.
  - (c) escapes or leaves mandatory quarantine before the period of time directed by the Quarantine Authority.
- (4) A person who commits an offence under sub-regulation (3) is liable on summary conviction to-
  - (a) mandatory quarantine; and
  - (b) a fine of one thousand dollars.

Compliance with health and safety protocols.

**30**.–(1) Any person, who enters Belize through the airport, shall comply with all health and safety protocols issued by the government of Belize, the Ministry responsible for

health and the Belize Tourism Board, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including but not limited to the following-

- (a) to wear a facemask, when required to do so; and
- (b) to observe social distancing protocols.
- (2) A person who contravenes this regulation commits an offence and is shall be issued a violation ticket in accordance with Part VII.
- **31**. Every person entering Belize shall pay the cost, as determined by the Ministry responsible for health, for a PCR test or other test for SARS-CoV2 approved by the Ministry responsible for health.

Fees for testing.

**32**.–(1) A person who contravenes a provision under this Part where no penalty has been provided for commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term of six months or to both fine and term of imprisonment.

Offence and penalty.

- (2) Any person who assaults, obstructs, intimidates, threatens, or resists any designated officer or other person acting under the authority of these Regulations, commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term of six months or to both fine and term of imprisonment.
- (3) Any person, other than a Belizean or Belizean permanent resident, who contravenes a provision under these Regulations, may be expelled from Belize at his own expense at the earliest possible occasion.
- **33**. Notwithstanding regulation 32, the Quarantine Authority may, by civil proceedings, recover against any person the

Recovery by civil proceedings.

cost for a PCR test or other test for SARS-CoV2 approved by the Ministry responsible for health.

#### **PART IV**

## Entry through land and sea ports

Closure of land and sea ports.

- **34**.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of COVID-19, every land and sea port of entry into and exit out of Belize shall be closed to Belizeans.
- (2) Notwithstanding sub-regulation (1), land and sea ports of entry into and exit out of Belize shall not be closed to-
  - (a) cargo shipments;
  - (b) emergency medical travel approved by the Director of Health Services in consultation with the Minister; or
  - (c) persons allowed to return under regulation 35 and granted approval in accordance with regulation 36.

Entry of persons returning to Belize at any land or sea port.

- **35**.–(1) A person returning to Belize at any land or sea port shall be allowed entry at that port if that person–
  - (a) is a Belizean or Belizean permanent resident returning from abroad with proof of having received urgent medical care;
  - (b) is a Belizean or Belizean permanent resident required to be in Belize to assist health officials in Belize in urgent medical situations;
  - (c) is a returning Belizean student or Permanent Resident student enrolled at, or a graduand of, an educational institution abroad;

- (d) is a returning Belizean national or Permanent Resident;
- (e) is a resident Belizean diplomat;
- (f) is a foreign diplomat resident in, and accredited to, Belize;
- (g) is the holder of a valid work permit;
- (h) is a consultant or specialist technician required to be in Belize to assist in an emergency or on a needs basis;
- (i) is a business person with investments in Belize.
- (2) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of COVID-19, a person allowed entry pursuant to sub-regulation (1) shall be put into immediate mandatory quarantine or self-quarantine at the discretion of the Quarantine Authority.
- **36.** A person qualified under regulation 35 who desires to travel to Belize by land or sea shall apply to the Ministry responsible for foreign affairs or to the nearest consulate or embassy for permission to enter prior to arriving at every land and sea port of entry in Belize.

Permission to enter Belize through land or sea port.

Offence and penalty for

entering or exiting Belize

contrary to regulation

- **37**.–(1) Every person entering or exiting Belize contrary to regulation 34 commits an offence is liable to–
  - (a) mandatory quarantine; and
  - (b) three months imprisonment.
- (2) A person convicted of a second or subsequent offence under this regulation is liable, in addition to the imposition

of mandatory quarantine, to imprisonment for a period of one year.

- (3) A person who is liable to mandatory quarantine under this regulation shall, if convicted, be quarantined-
  - (a) for a period of time as directed by the Quarantine Authority; and
  - (b) at a place to be determined by the Quarantine Authority.
- (4) Where a person arrested and charged but not convicted under this regulation is liable to mandatory quarantine, that person shall be subject to mandatory quarantine under regulation 40.

Procedure on arrest and charge of persons entering or exiting Belize illegally.

- **38.**–(1) The following procedures shall be followed on the arrest and charge of a person who enters or exists Belize in contravention of regulation 35–
  - (a) upon arrest and charge, the person shall immediately be submitted to the Ministry responsible for health for testing, as may be required;
  - (b) after testing, the person arrested and charged shall be taken to court to be arraigned; and
  - (c) after arraignment, the person shall be quarantined for the period directed by the Quarantine Authority, whether or not that person has been granted bail.
- (2) If a person who has been arrested cannot immediately be charged, or if charged, cannot immediately be taken to court after being tested by the Ministry responsible for health, that person shall–

- (a) be isolated in a cell at the police station in the judicial district where the offence was committed; and
- (b) be brought before the court at its earliest sitting.
- (3) After the completion of the period of quarantine directed by the Quarantine Authority, a person arraigned shall be-
  - (a) released pending trial if that person was granted bail; or
  - (b) remanded pending trial if that person was not granted bail.
- (4) Notwithstanding the pronouncement by the magistrate of the guilt or innocence of a person arrested and charged, that person shall serve the period of mandatory quarantine prior to being committed to prison or released, as the case may be.
- (5) Where a person charged under regulation 37 is found guilty of the offence, that person shall serve the term of imprisonment as directed by the magistrate after completing the period of mandatory quarantine directed by the Quarantine Authority.
- **39**.–(1) Every person who desires to import a test that detects the presence or absence of SARS-COV2 or any equipment or supplies in relation to a test that detects the presence or absence of SARS-COV2 shall apply in writing to the Ministry responsible for health for approval to import that test, equipment or supplies.
- (2) Every person who desires to offer testing for SARS-COV2 shall apply in writing to the Ministry responsible for health for approval to offer testing.

Approval for importation of tests and approval to conduct testing.

(3) Every person who contravenes this regulation commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars.

Mandatory quarantine.

- **40**.–(1) A person who tests positive for COVID-19 after being administered a PCR test, rapid test or other test for SARS-CoV2 or who develops flu-like symptoms and who reasonably suspects he is infected with SARS-CoV2 or that he may have had contact with someone who has travelled to or from a country affected by COVID-19–
  - (a) shall immediately inform the Ministry responsible for health; and
  - (b) at the person's own expense, shall be put into immediate mandatory quarantine at the direction of, and for a period of time as directed by, the Quarantine Authority and in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry responsible for health.
- (2) Where a person kept under quarantine at a quarantine facility develops flu-like symptoms, the Quarantine Authority shall direct that the person be put into immediate isolation at a designated hospital or other isolation centre.
- (3) A person who tests positive for COVID-19 may be discharged and declared recovered only by a health professional acting in accordance with the standardized protocols of the Ministry responsible for health.

#### **PART V**

## Entry of foreign tourists through land ports

- **41**. Notwithstanding regulation 34, the land ports and sea ports of entry shall be open to foreign tourists–
- foreign tourists at Santa Elena and Belize Western

Borders.

Entry of

- (a) from Monday to Friday, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and
- (b) on Saturday and Sunday, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 midday.
- **42**.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of COVID-19, every foreign tourist who desires to enter Belize through a land port or sea port of entry, whether or not that person is immunized, shall submit to testing for SARS-CoV2 by the Ministry responsible for health,

Testing requirements.

- provided that, every foreign tourist arriving from Botswana, Eswaniti, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa or Zimbabwe shall-
  - (a) be put into mandatory quarantine for a period of ten days at a government designated quarantine facility in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry responsible for health; and
  - (b) at the expiration of the ten days quarantine under paragraph (a), submit to testing by the ministry responsible for health.
- (2) Any foreign tourist who fails to comply with sub-regulation (1) shall be denied entry into Belize.
- (3) A foreign tourist who is denied entry under subregulation (2) shall-

- (a) be required to return to his port of origin at his own expense at the earliest occasion; and
- (b) if unable to be immediately returned to his port of origin, at his own expense, be put into mandatory quarantine at a government designated quarantine facility at the direction of, and for a period of time as directed by, the Quarantine Authority and in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry responsible for health.

Procedure on testing positive for COVID-19.

- **43**.–(1) For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of COVID-19, a foreign tourist entering Belize through a land port or sea port of entry who tests positive for COVTD-19 after being subjected to testing by the Ministry responsible may–
  - (a) at the discretion of the designated officer, be denied entry into Belize; or
  - (b) at the person's own expense, be put into mandatory quarantine at a Government designated quarantine facility at the direction of, and for a period of time as directed by, the Quarantine Authority and in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry responsible for health.
- (2) A foreign tourist who tests positive for COVID-19 and placed in mandatory quarantine may be discharged and declared recovered only by a health professional acting in accordance with the standardised protocols of the Ministry responsible for health.
- (3) A foreign tourist who tests positive for COVID-19 and placed in mandatory quarantine commits an offence if that person-

- (a) fails to go into mandatory quarantine;
- (b) while in mandatory quarantine, breaches any direction of the Quarantine Authority; or
- (c) escapes or leaves mandatory quarantine before the period of time directed by the Quarantine Authority.
- (4) A person who commits an offence under subregulation (3) is liable on summary conviction to-
  - (a) mandatory quarantine; and
  - (b) a fine of one thousand dollars.
- **44**. For the purposes of preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the spread of COVID-19, every foreign tourist shall, upon arrival at a land port or sea port of entry, complete a health declaration form provided by a designated officer.

Requirement to complete health declaration form.

**45**.–(1) Every foreign tourist, who enters Belize through a land port or sea port of entry shall comply with all health and safety protocols issued by the government of Belize and the Ministry responsible for health, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including but not limited to the following–

Compliance with health and safety protocols.

- (a) to wear a facemask, as required under these Regulations; and
- (b) to observe social distancing protocols.
- (2) A foreign tourist who contravenes this regulation commits an offence and shall be issued a violation ticket in accordance with Part VII.

Cost for testing.

**46**. Every foreign tourist required to test for SARS-CoV2 in accordance with regulation 42 (1) shall pay the cost of the test, as determined by the Ministry responsible for health.

Offence and penalty.

47. Any foreign tourist who assaults, obstructs, intimidates, threatens, or resists any designated officer or other person acting under the authority of these Regulations, commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term of six months or to both fine and term of imprisonment.

Recovery by civil proceedings.

**48**. Notwithstanding regulation 46, the Quarantine Authority may, by civil proceedings, recover against any person the cost for a PCR test or other test for SARSCoV2 approved by the Ministry responsible for health.

#### **PART VI**

## Offences and penalties

Offences in relation to mandatory quarantine.

- **49**.–(1) A person commits an offence if that person–
  - (a) contravenes regulation 40;
  - (b) while in mandatory quarantine, breaches any direction of the Quarantine Authority; or
  - (c) escapes or leaves mandatory quarantine before the period of time directed by the Quarantine Authority.
  - (2) A person who commits an offence under this regulation is liable on summary conviction to-
    - (a) mandatory quarantine; and
    - (b) one thousand dollars.

- (3) A person convicted of a second or subsequent offence under this regulation is liable, in addition to the imposition of mandatory quarantine, to imprisonment for a period of one year.
- **50**. Every person that creates, issues or has in his possession a false COVID-19 immunization card commits an offence.

Offence of creating or being in possession of fake immunization card.

**51**.–(1) Every employer of a business, office or establishment who contravenes regulations 12, 17, 18, 20, 21, 24 or 25 commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars.

Penalty for employers and employees.

- (2) Every employer of a business, office or establishment who is convicted of a second or subsequent offence is liable on summary conviction to–
  - (a) a fine of five thousand dollars; and
  - (b) closure of that business, office or establishment for a period of seven days.
- (3) Every employee of a business, office or establishment who contravenes regulations 5 or 12 commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two hundred dollars.
- **52**.–(1) Every person who contravenes any of the provisions of these Regulations or incites or attempts to incite any other person to contravene any of these Regulations commits an offence.

General offence and penalty.

(2) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of these Regulations for which no penalty is specifically provided is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars or to imprisonment for two years.

(3) A person convicted of a second or subsequent offence under these Regulations for which no penalty is specifically provided is liable to imprisonment for a period of two years.

#### **PART VII**

#### Violation Tickets

**53**.–(1) A violation ticket may be issued by a Police Officer or an officer of the Enforcement Unit to any person alleged or suspected of having committed any of the offences under regulations 4, 5, 6, 7, 15, 19, 26, 30 or 45.

Issue of violation ticket.

- (2) Any person who refuses to receive a violation ticket, or refuses to give his name and address, or gives a false name or address commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars.
- **54**.–(1) A violation ticket that is issued shall be–

Form of violation ticket. Schedule IV.

- (a) in the form prescribed in Schedule IV; and
- (b) prepared in duplicate.
- (2) The Belize Police Department shall be responsible for printing, supplying and distributing all violation tickets.
- **55**. Every person who is issued a violation ticket shall pay a fine of five hundred dollars, which amount shall be clearly stated on the face of the violation ticket.

Fine to be paid.

**56**.–(1) Every person who is issued a violation ticket shall pay the fine stated on the violation ticket within fifteen calendar days of the date of issue of the violation ticket.

Time for payment of fine.

(2) The fine stated on the violation ticket shall be increased at the rate of ten dollars for every day the fine

remains unpaid if the violator fails to pay the fine within the time prescribed under sub-regulation (1).

- (3) If the fine stated on the violation ticket remains unpaid for a period of thirty calendar days from the date of issue of the violation ticket, the ticket shall automatically operate as a summons and the person to whom the ticket was issued shall on the day specified in the summons for him to appear in court, which day shall be not less than seven calendar days and not more than fourteen calendar days from the expiry of the thirty day period, be required to appear at the summary jurisdiction court in the judicial district, on the date and time specified on the face of the violation ticket.
- (4) Immediately after the expiration of thirty calendar days after the fine remains unpaid but in any case no later than the day specified for the person to appear in court, the summons shall be laid in court by the bailiff or some other officer designated by the Belize Police Department for that purpose and the provisions of Part IV of the Summary Jurisdiction (Procedure) Act shall apply in respect of the complaint contained therein as if the information and complaint were made under that Act.
- (5) A person convicted of an offence under this Part is liable to a fine of one thousand dollars.
- **57**.–(1) The provisions of sections 25 and 27 of the Summary Jurisdiction (Procedure) Act shall not affect the validity of a summons issued under this Part, and any violation ticket issued shall, for the purpose of proving service of summons on the defendant be deemed good and sufficient service.
- (2) The provisions of section 26 and 28 of the Summary Jurisdiction (Procedure) Act shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to a summons issued under this Part.

CAP. 99.

Further application of certain provisions of Summary Jurisdiction (Procedure) Act. CAP. 99.

**58**.–(1) The fine stated on a violation ticket may be paid at the Treasury, District Sub-Treasury, or at any Magistrate's Court.

Places for payment of fine.

- (2) A person paying the fine shall submit the violation ticket to the officer collecting the fine.
- (3) All Treasuries, District Sub-Treasuries and Magistrates Court shall-
  - (a) ensure the correct amount of fine is paid by the violator, including any increased amounts which may have accrued under regulation 56:
  - (b) issue a receipt for the amount collected;
  - (c) keep a record of the-
    - (i) amount collected;
    - (ii) name and address of the person paying the fine;
    - (iii) number and date of the violation ticket; and
    - (iv) date of payment; and
  - (d) at the end of every month, forward a copy of the record under paragraph (c) to the Commissioner of Police together with the violation tickets submitted.
- **59**. All fines and penalties collected by virtue of this Part shall be credited to the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

Use of fines paid.

#### PART VIII

#### Miscellaneous

COVID-19 Enforcement

- **60**.–(1) There shall be established a COVID-19 Enforcement Unit which shall be responsible to issue violation tickets in accordance with Part VII.
- (2) The COVID-19 Enforcement Unit shall comprise of such number of officers appointed by the Minister, by Notice published in the Gazette.

Repeal and savings. S.I. 151 of 2021.

- **61**.–(1) The Public Health (Prevention Of The Spread Of Infectious Disease) (COVID-19) Regulations, 2021 are repealed.
- (2) Notwithstanding the repeal, nothing in these Regulations shall affect anything done, any proceedings taken or a right which has accrued or a liability which has been incurred under the repealed regulations before the coming into force of these Regulations and anything done, any proceedings taken or a right which has accrued or a liability which has been incurred under the repealed regulations shall be deemed to have been done, taken, accrued or incurred, as the case may be, under these Regulations.

Commencement.

**62**. These Regulations shall come into force on the 16th day of January, 2022.

# SCHEDULE I [regulation 2]

#### **ESSENTIAL SERVICES**

- 1. Ministry of National Security
- 2. Department of Border Management and Immigration Services
- 3. Customs and Excise Department
- 4. Medical and auxiliary services
  - (a) including veterinary services;
  - (b) services by private medical institutions including private clinics; and
  - (c) ambulance services,
- 5. Private security services
- 6. Public utility workers and auxiliary staff responding to emergencies
- 7. Social workers authorized to respond to emergencies
- 8. Sanitation workers and auxiliary staff
- 9. productive sector industries, personnel and auxiliary workers (potable water production, agricultural workers)
- 10. Belize Port Authority
- 11. The National Fire Service
- 12. Belize Electricity Limited
- 13. Belize Water Services Limited

- 14. Belize Telemedia Limited
- 15. Speednet Communications Limited (Smart)
- 16. Department of Civil Aviation
- 17. BPO

## **SCHEDULE II**

[regulation 2]

VACCINE	DOSES
Pfizer-BionTech	2
AstraZeneca SK Bio	2
AstraZeneca-SII Covishield	2
AstraZeneca Vaxzevria	2
Medigen (Taiwan)	2
Moderna	2
Sinopharm	2
Johnson & Johnson / Janssen Cilag	1
Sinovac (Coronavac)	2

### **SCHEDULE III**

[regulation 8]

### APPROVED TESTING INSTITUTIONS

Archangel Medical Center

Belize Diagnostic Center

Belize Healthcare Partners

Belize Medical Associates

Belize Pro Lab

Belize Specialists Hospital, Gastroenterology and Endoscopy Center

Belmopan Medical Centre

Caring Hands Clinic

Dr. D's Clinic

Northern Medical Specialty Plaza

San Carlos Medical Center

Southern Clinical Laboratory

St. Luke Hospital

# SCHEDULE IV [regulation 54]

# **FORM OF VIOLATION TICKET**

No	Date of Issue
AMOUNT OF FINE: FIV	E HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)
NAME OF PERSON TO V	WHOM ISSUED:
IDENTIFICATION NO.: _	
DATE OF BIRTH:	
SEX:	
HEIGHT:	
ANY DISTINGUISHING	FEATURES:
ADDRESS OF PERSON T	TO WHOM ISSUED:
DATE AND TIME OF TH	IE OFFENCE:
TYPE OF OFFENCE:	
PLACE WHERE OFFENC	CE COMMITTED:
DUE DATE FOR PAYME	ENT:
NAME OF OFFICER (IN	BLOCK LETTERS) ISSUING THE TICKET:
DESIGNATION AND AD	DDRESS OF THE OFFICER ISSUING THE
BADGE NUMBER OF TH	HE OFFICER ISSUING THE TICKET:
INFORMATION	AND COMPLAINT CUM SUMMONS

•	• •	ate of issue of this violation
ticket, you are hereby sur	mmoned to appear i	n the(Name of Court)
		(Name of Court)
Court on the	at	to answer to the
(date of appe	arance) (time	(Name of Court) to answer to the of appearance)
following charges:		
1.		
2.		
3.		
<i></i>		
4		
4		
_		
5	fy charges which led to is	0:1.0
(specif	y charges which led to is	suance of ticket)
If you fail to appear as in	digated above the t	rial may proceed in your
If you fail to appear as in		• •
absence or a warrant may	be issued for your	arrest.
	SPECIMEN CHA	<u>ARGE</u>
		committed the offence of
(Name of D	efendant)	
(s <sub>l</sub>	pecify the offence)	
1	C.1 D 11' II 1	1 (P C ) (P CTT)
regulation	of the Public Heal	th (Reform) (Prevention Of The Regulations for that the said
Spread Of Infectious Dis	ease) (COVID-19),	Regulations for that the said
	on the	e(date of commission of offence)
(name of defendant)		(date of commission of offence)
: 41		T 11 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
in the		Judicial District
		<del> </del>
(give r	particulars of offence)	

N.B: Officers issuing tickets should endeavour to follow the specimen charge provided above when they are specifying the charges leading to the issuance of the ticket.

#### NOTES

- 1. The violation ticket has been issued in respect of an offence under the Public Health (Reform) (Prevention of the Spread of Infectious Disease) (COVID-19) Regulations, 2022.
- 2. You may pay the fine stated on the ticket at any Treasury, District Sub-Treasury or at a Magistrate's Court, within fifteen (15) calendar days of the date of issue of the ticket, by delivering ticket issued.
- 3. If the fine is not paid within fifteen (15) calendar days, the fine shall be increased by \$10.00 for every day the fine remains unpaid.
- 4. If the fine stated in the violation ticket remains unpaid for a period of thirty calendar days this violation ticket shall automatically operate as a summons to appear before the Court stated on the face to the ticket. If you fail to appear in court as required, a warrant may be issued for your arrest, or the trial may be held in your absence. In the event of a conviction, you shall be fined up to one thousand dollars.

**MADE** by the Minister responsible for public health this 13th day of January, 2022.

