



**DONALD P.  
WAGNER**  
Supervisor, Third District



## THE SUPERVISOR'S SCOOP

THE LATEST THIRD DISTRICT NEWS



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Dear Valued Residents,

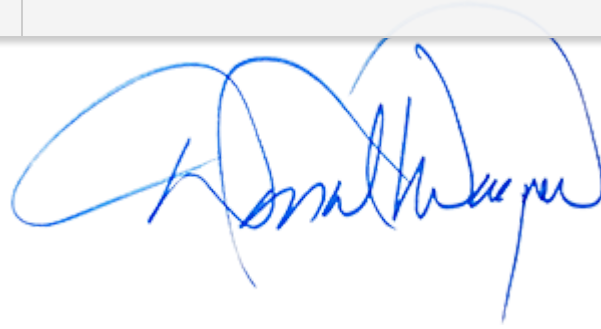
We are closing on week 5 of California's stay at home order. COVID-19 is stressful for everyone and continues to wreak havoc for people economically, physically, and mentally.

My message is simple.

We must continue to have the courage to face the disease together, helping each other. If we fail to display altruism, there would be no PPE donations, no food or blood donations, little obligation to find a cure, and no desire to lift each other up during downtrodden times.

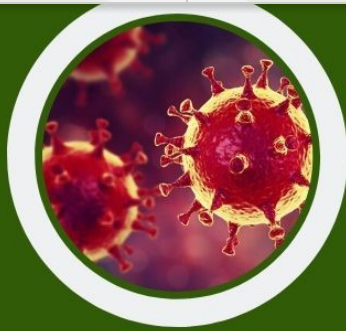
Society's survival depends on compassion now more than ever.

Wishing good health and prosperity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Donald W. ...".

**April 21, Hall of Administration**

Please watch the latest special meeting of the Orange County Board of Supervisors meeting to discuss #OCCOVID19.

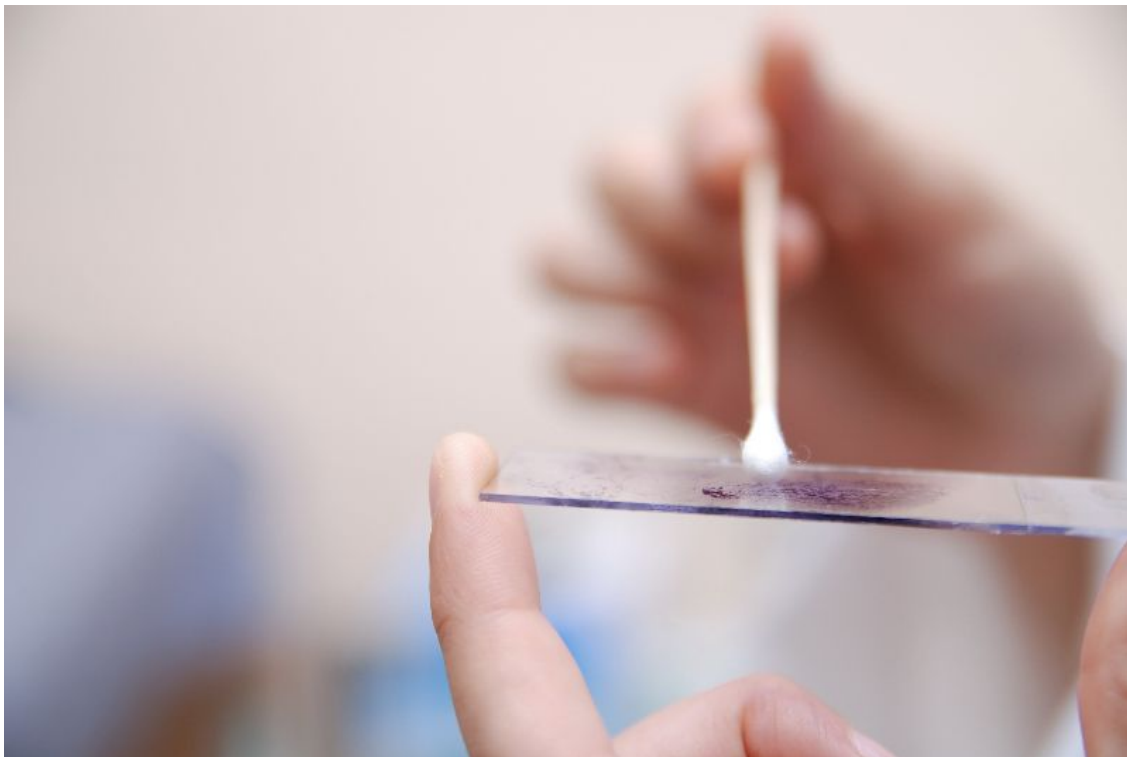


**TEXT  
"OCCOVID19"  
TO 888777**

*You'll receive text messages from the Orange County Emergency Operations Center with updates and resources related to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Orange County, California.*



Daily COVID-19 facts and figure count [HERE](#)



OC Health Care Agency (HCA) launched the OC COVID-19 Testing Network starting Tuesday, April 21, 2020. This is not a walk-up service and residents must be referred by their providers.

The Network expands testing across Orange County for any community member experiencing COVID-19 symptoms but is unable to receive testing through a health care provider.



Initial locations include:

- AltaMed Medical Group, Anaheim
- AltaMed Medical Group, Santa Ana/Bristol
- Nhan Hoa Comprehensive Health Care Clinic, Garden Grove
- UCI Health, multiple locations

A continually-updated list of test sites, with information on scheduling and the appointment process, can be found [here](#) or by calling the HCA's Health Referral Line at (800) 564-8448.

“Because of continued challenges of obtaining testing supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE) for health care providers, testing may be restricted at times to high priority groups as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),” said Dr. Quick. “Residents must make an appointment for testing to assure eligibility and availability of testing.”



**COVID19: County Beaches and Golf Courses**



Warm weather is here and residents want to recreate. Supervisor Wagner spoke with several news outlets to discuss County beaches and private and public golf courses. Unlike city beaches, our County beaches have always been open to the public during the pandemic.

Medical professionals agree a total beach shutdown is too heavy-handed. However, the OC Board is not opening the surrounding parking lots.

In a unanimous vote, the Orange County Board of Supervisors chose to reopen private and public golf courses. The action follows protests across the state, including Newport Beach along with piling pressure from residents.

Many courses closed down to obey the state-wide stay-at-home order. Currently, golfing restrictions are as follows:

- Party sizes restricted to 4
- Physical distancing measures
- "Touchpoints" will be eliminated
- Staggered tee-off times



### Orange County Business Recovery Adhoc Committee

Much like other states and surrounding counties, we are looking to safely and responsibly reopen our



### Be Well OC Beam Signing – Orange, CA

Supervisor Wagner and Supervisor Chaffee signed the [Be Well OC](#) beam to be placed on the mental health campus. The

dwindling economy. Chairwoman Michelle Steel and Supervisor

Wagner are soliciting best practices from the top business and health care professionals to create a roadmap for a re-opened Orange County.

All actions will be under the guidance of the OC Health Care Agency while leveraging the latest science. It is important to note Orange County cannot contravene the Governor's orders.

OC health reports indicate the curve is flattening and dipping downwards. We must assure that the lifeblood of our economy does not flatline.

It is unsustainable to continue keeping our healthy workforce and industry out of business with no end in sight. We must strike a responsible balance.

symbolic gesture was in lieu of a scheduled ceremony, which was canceled due to the COVID-19 crisis.

The beam placement marks the next phase of building the revolutionary mental health campus.

The Be Well OC model will lead the nation. Before, organizations and sectors were not able to solve the pervasive challenge of mental health and substance use disorders alone. In Orange County, there are exceptional services, but they function in silos.

With Be Well OC, services will be streamlined and interconnected. Be Well OC changes the healthcare game with a public-private partnership that brings all mental health services and resources under one roof.





The Spruce tree on the Be Well OC beam is an old-time tradition that symbolizes good luck.

## Red tape gets slashed, ushering in innovation

By Donald P. Wagner

COVID-19 is the world's greatest social experiment. This experiment threatens to prompt us to change everything, how we work, how we shop, how we interact with each other and, hopefully, how we run our government.

We should use this unfortunate experiment to learn how our beleaguered Information Age can prevail over an Iron Age government bureaucracy. Efforts to fight COVID-19 have resulted in many reductions in government red tape. Those reductions should survive the pandemic.

Perhaps nowhere has government streamlining — or the wholesale abrogation of government regulations — been more pronounced than in the field of healthcare. For example, our expensive, glacial and often inhumane drug approval process has been a longtime national embarrassment.

But the Food and Drug Administration lately began empowering drug companies to accelerate their efforts at COVID-19 research and vaccination testing.

Recent press reports tell us that the usual protocols are being skipped in the face of COVID-19.

Research facilities — both private and university-related — are testing "the safety and efficacy of multiple drugs and therapies in record time," reported Fox News. Included in this report is positive news from St. Joseph Hospital in Orange and from the University of California, Irvine, both located in my district. Elsewhere, the mayor of Detroit — a city hard-hit by the disease — announced earlier this month that the FDA fast-tracked the Henry Ford Health System's clinical trials for the promising anti-malarial drug hydroxychloroquine. Good for the FDA. Thank you from a population in dire need of your prompt action.

This pandemic has forced us to waive much governmental red tape to modernize health care. California lawmakers are knocking down other obstacles, showing that it can be done. In a successful bipartisan effort, the Department of Consumer Affairs



Medical staff shows on February 26, 2020 at the ICI Mediterranean Infection Institute in Riverside, packets of a Remdesivir, tablets containing chloroquine and Plaquemid, tablets containing hydroxychloroquine, drugs that has shown signs of effectiveness against coronavirus.

announced nursing licensing requirements and temporarily waived clinical-hour prerequisites. Now, over 14,000 nursing students are available to help work the state's 66,000 new hospital beds. Continuing this trend will help close gaps in our health-care system. Similarly, when it comes to streamlining government, the potential for an increase in telemedicine promises substantial health benefits now and into the future. Telemedicine employs the use of video, streaming services and other digital platforms for a healthcare professional to provide medical services remotely. Additionally, patients can cast their nets wide in search of new specialists and clinical staff, regardless of location. That matters in a COVID-19 environment. But it will also matter after the virus abates for people living in rural communities and to those unable to travel well or at all.

Indeed, simplifying the interchange between patient and provider can yield better health outcomes beyond the immediate COVID-19 need. Studies have found that a doctor can successfully consult on most fevers, rashes, and gastrointestinal issues via an audio-visual teleconference. General practitioners, specialists,

nurses, all can see more patients. Trips to the doctor's office can be more often virtual, reducing travel costs, the use of sick time, absenteeism and the tendency to skip those visits. The Journal of Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology found that a single well-child doctor visit resulted in a 3.3 percent increase of the like symptoms over the subsequent two weeks; conduct those "visits" virtually and that increased risk evaporates.

The government should facilitate such visits by encouraging the use of telehealth platforms. In California, MediCare has temporarily expanded the list of eligible services provided via telehealth and removed site restrictions. This temporary expansion should become permanent.

Telemedicine is not a new or untested concept. One of the first bills I supported during my service in the Legislature, 2011's Assembly Bill 418, gave a limited ability for physicians and patients to connect via technology, especially enabling rural and out-of-area patients to be seen by specialists remotely. Immediately before the current pandemic hit, the California Legislature extended AB18, requiring insurers to reimburse for telehealth services at the same

rate as in-person service. This limited effort was successful, but only a first step. Today's circumstances challenge makers of ensuring that all unnecessary and counterproductive limits on telemedicine permanently disappear.

In short, the grand experiment that COVID-19 has so suddenly forced upon us has produced results. One of those is the willingness of the government to reduce the limits on the use of technology to keep us healthy. We have learned the government can mobilize quickly and lessen regulatory burdens when it must. The green light to medical researchers, the increased use of telemedicine and the easing of licensing burdens have given newfound freedom to our country's leading medical experts.

Society will benefit from this unleashed human ingenuity against the coronavirus crisis and beyond.

If the elimination of red tape is helpful now, it will still be helpful when the crisis ends. We need to continue this "can-do" spirit after the pandemic passes.

Donald P. Wagner represents District 2 on the Orange County Board of Supervisors.

## Supervisor Pens Op-Ed on Government Streamlining

Supervisor Wagner wrote an Op-Ed on how we are eliminating red tape to help citizens get through the COVID-19 crisis. He proposes we continue this "can-do" spirit after the pandemic passes. Please read the full article in the [OC REGISTER](#).

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### **Please Consider Giving Blood, Platelets, and Plasma**

Supervisor Wagner donated blood (and ate a snack after to keep sugars up) to do his part in helping with the OC COVID-19 crisis. You may notice appointment times are further out, but this is due to physical distancing practices. Donating is so crucial that it is exempt from the Governor's stay-at-home orders.

Please consider donating on-site to UCI Health, Hoag, or other hospitals. Alternatively, you can find a local blood bank such as [LifeStream](#). Platelets are in critically short supply; please consider donating them as well.

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## PPE Donations to County

The County of Orange graciously received thousands of masks, gloves, and other PPE donations to prepare for the OC COVID-19 surge. We are in this together and we will get through this together.

金橙公益基金会 TOC Foundation donated:

- 5000 pcs of EXANOVO disposable face masks
- 250 pcs of face masks; various brands
- 657 pcs of N95/P95/KN95/KF94 respirators
- 250 pcs of Nitrile gloves
- 3 bottles of 70% Alcohol

Elegant Culture & Tradition donated:

- 6000 face masks
- 100 medical coveralls
- 60 face shells
- 60 safety goggles
- 60 shoe covers

Alongside Supervisor Wagner, Chairwoman Michelle Steel, CEO Frank Kim, the County of Orange Health Care Agency, and the entire County staff



## Interview with OC Tax

We must ease into reopening our economy. COVID19 is deadly for some, but recessions can kill too.

At OC Tax, I discussed how Chairwoman Michelle Steel and I are forming the OC Business Recovery Adhoc Committee in close consultation with the County of Orange Health Care Agency.

We will investigate where we can apply gas to get our workforce moving, and where we need to pump the brakes to stay safe.

OC Health Care reports do show OC is faring far better than our neighboring counties. The disease curve is flattening, but we are seeing businesses and livelihoods sinking.



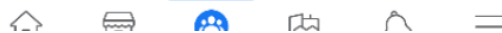
items to the front-line workers who need it most.

[WATCH VIDEO HERE](#)

[OC REGISTER ARTICLE HERE](#)

 **Ray Linton** ► Irvine Residents Connect 3 hrs · 📍

Hello Everyone!  
I wanted to ask and see if my fellow Irvine neighbors could help support my extraordinary friend of 7 years. Her name is Nicole, she is a registered nurse and is going to leave our home in Irvine Monday 4/20/2020 to go to New Jersey to work at RWJ Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. This is a COVID-19 crisis center and I really don't want her going, but I respect her wishes and she wants to use her nursing skills for this pandemic that is sweeping our nation. If there is anyone that can donate supplies such as masks, sanitizer, cards, notes of support etc... It would be greatly appreciated. I would love to able to send her care packages. She is leaving this Monday on her 31st birthday and I want to surprise her and show her how we are all grateful for what she is about to do. Thank you in advance to my fellow Irvine family. ❤️❤️❤️



### Showing Gratitude

Sometimes, good news travels fast on Facebook forums. A story circulated about an Irvine nurse who decided to help frontline workers in New York.

Nurse Nicole flew to New Jersey on 4/20 to work at the RWJ Beth



### Resource Update: Paycheck Protection Program

Driving the small business stimulus in the [CARES Act](#) is the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). The \$349 billion funded under the Small Business Administration (SBA)—[Business Loans Program Account](#) can provide loans to businesses, up to eight weeks of payroll and other costs to help those businesses remain viable and allow their

Local Asian-American charities in the Irvine community were inspired by her compassion and courage to help during the COVID crisis. As a thank you to Nicole, a care package of masks and PPE items were delivered to her front door to show appreciation with a note, “you defend us, we defend you.”

Thank you, Nurse Nicole!

## Notes

- The program is currently on hold because of a lack of funds.
- PPP loans were available for the lesser of \$10 million or 2.5 times your average monthly payroll.
- 100% of your loan could be forgiven if you follow guidelines.
- You can apply for both a PPP and EIDL loan if there were funds available.
- Check eligibility before you apply.
- When funds are available, you can apply through an SBA approved 7(a) lender.

More Resources:

<https://covinfo.egovoc.com>

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## How California Laws Make it More Difficult to Build Affordable Housing: California Insider With Don Wagner

Supervisor Wagner speaks with news outlet Epoch Times on California's economic trends and future. Watch the full interview [here](#).

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**50th Annual Scholar-Athlete Awards Banquet,  
March 9, 2020**

The Third District sent Certificates of Recognition to all the honorees from the National Football Foundation, Orange County Chapter

Honorees included:

- Vincent Hourigan, Joey Rouly, and Jeff Holley from Canyon High

• Jonathan Acosta and Marcus Manion from El Modena High School

- Gabe Gallardo and John Holcomb from Foothill High School
  - Simon Sampson from Tustin High School
  - Davin Ancich from Villa Park High School

*Congrats!*

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*Thanks for reading!*



*Supervisor Don Wagner is proud to represent nearly 600,000 diverse residents in the communities of Irvine, Tustin, North Tustin, Villa Park, Orange, the unincorporated canyons, and Yorba Linda. Team Wagner is honored to serve you.*

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**Email:**

[DONALD.WAGNER@OCGOV.COM](mailto:DONALD.WAGNER@OCGOV.COM)

**Our mailing address is:**

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OC BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

THIRD DISTRICT  
333 W. SANTA ANA BLVD  
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

**Office number:**

(714) 834-3330

**Questions or comments about this newsletter?**

Please contact Communications Director Rachel Lurya:

[rachel.lurya@ocgov.com](mailto:rachel.lurya@ocgov.com)

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