



HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

STATE HEADQUARTERS

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COVID-19 Memo #5

Directives & Recommendations from Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Headquarters (April 24, 2020)

No in-person services & activities until further notice. HQ will work with Districts to decide on when it is safe for them to reopen. We need to follow Federal, State & County mandates and recommendations or guidelines to determine when it will be safe to resume in-person services and activities at the temple. Please be advised that opening of temples could vary from county to county. Please keep in mind that higher risk individuals (older people 65+, those with compromised immune systems or other underlying medical conditions, etc.) are urged to stay home to the greatest extent possible.

- Following services are permitted:
 - Bedside / Makuragyo services
 - Other End of life related services
 - Funeral services
 - Temple Hondo / Main Sanctuary can be used only for the above services.
 - The above services must be conducted with less than 10 people, physical distancing, and other precautions as dictated by the Federal, State and County mandates. Please keep abreast of local county ordinances (which could vary from county to county) too.
- Online Services are permitted.
 - Any type of services including Sunday services can be held online, however this must be done from the minister's home.
 - Virtual marriage ceremonies are not permitted by State law.
 - Recommendations and suggestions for safety and security for websites and when using social media will be distributed.
- All air travel except for emergencies is suspended until further notice.
- HQ staff including BSC continues working remotely from home until further notice.
- All temples are also asked to comply with minimum basic operations until further notice including following good hygiene, physical distancing, wearing of face masks, etc.

The situation with COVID-19 is still fluid that matters could change anytime and very quickly. Currently, in addition to State-wide requirements, counties also have practices in place. Please keep yourselves informed about local requirements too. Ministers and temple leaders, please use your best judgement. Further memos will be issued as needed. Let us be safe, patient with each other and not let fear overrun us. Let us go to the Buddha-Dharma for guidance.

Thank you very much.

Respectfully,

Rev. Eric Matsumoto, Bishop and Dr. Warren Tamamoto, President