

**From:** Tricia Burbank <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 10, 2020 11:04 AM  
**To:** BOS Public Comment  
**Subject:** Opening Nevada County

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5/10/20[

Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board County of Nevada  
950 Maidu Avenue  
Nevada City, CA 95959

RE: Nevada County Stay-at-Home Order Stage 2 Reopening

Dear Ms. Patterson Hunter,

As residents, neighbors, and business owners in Nevada County, we care deeply about our communities. On March 19th, Governor Newsom issued his shelter-in-place order, closing non-essential businesses and prohibiting all non-essential travel. We knew that it was the right thing to do, to protect our community, business, and the traveling public. We commend the Governor for making this difficult decision and taking early action in the fight against COVID-19 and support the County of Nevada, issuing Stay-at-Home guidelines to keep us safe.

Nevada County is where I choose to live. There is no other place like it. Our rich heritage, diverse culture, and quality of life make it the best place imaginable to grow a family and grow a business. The people are what make this community strong. We've weathered catastrophes like the 49er Fire, economic recessions, and PSPS outages, events that have interrupted our lives and livelihoods, but we've faced them together, and come out the other side more resilient for having survived.

We're heartened that the data on the Nevada County COVID 19 Dashboard is a clear indication that our community has been successful in following the State and Nevada County Stay-at-Home guidelines and that those afflicted with COVID 19 have recovered. Our curve is flattened, with no new cases reported.

Daily, we wait for news from our Supervisors that measures have been taken to follow the examples of neighboring counties whose COVID 19 data mirrors our own. The Supervisors of those counties have written letters to the Governor and reopened their counties with precautions in place. We in Nevada County are compelled to remain sequestered and

non-essential businesses are mandated to remain closed. It is difficult to watch our friends and neighbors go down the hill to neighboring counties to purchase goods and services while many of us are on the brink of financial collapse. Dollars spent outside of Nevada County; dollars that would help us recover economically were we open.

In addition, many of those forced into confinement suffer health and mental health issues.

It is our feeling that you, as our elected officials have chosen to not stand up for us. If you do not help us reopen, many small businesses in Nevada County will perish. We ask the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to stand with the constituency of the County. To support our right as citizens to open our doors, our right as business owners to serve our community, and to restore our livelihoods.

We respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors write a resolution asking California's Governor to terminate the current state of emergency declaration, give local control back to the County of Nevada and reopen our businesses.

Sincerely,

Patricia J Burbank



Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board County of Nevada 950 Maidu Avenue  
Nevada City, CA 95959

RE: Nevada County Stay-at-Home Order Stage 2 Reopening

Dear Ms. Patterson Hunter,

This letter is a response to a request by a local business person that we make our feelings and ideas re: the re-opening of this county to normal business activity for the Supervisors' due consideration at their May 12 meeting.

I will open by quoting from the suggested model letter which was sent in her email:

"Daily, we wait for news from our Supervisors that measures have been taken to follow the examples of neighboring counties whose COVID 19 data mirrors our own. The Supervisors of those counties have written letters to the Governor and reopened their counties with precautions in place. We in Nevada County are compelled to remain sequestered and non-essential businesses are mandated to remain closed. It is difficult to watch our friends and neighbors go down the hill to neighboring counties to purchase goods and services while many of us are on the brink of financial collapse. Dollars spent outside of Nevada County; dollars that would help us recover economically were we open."

As was suggested in her email to us all, I have checked this day (May 10) and the Nevada County Covid 19 Dashboard still shows no new active cases, 40 recoveries and one death. The information which we have been given by our media suggests that a mortality rate for this coronavirus is on the order of 2% ( this county 2.4%, i.e. 1 out of 41), with many other estimates as high as 6%. This is outright fear mongering and has been used to justify the totally novel approach to this novel virus. The approach in question being total lockdown, a practice not used heretofore. Not with SARS, not with H1N1, no, not at all. Not something which has a precedent or scientific backing.

You supervisors need to know ( and, dammit, act on ) the following points:

- The mortality figures mentioned above are based on "confirmed cases" which means those where, for the most part, people are sick enough to seek help at a medical facility (doctor or hospital). The deaths are tallied from those who have died and also exhibit covid-19, whether or not that is the actual cause of death. To use these figures and broadcast them to a gullible public as representing a likely true mortality rate is totally inappropriate and deliberately misleading.
- The only acceptable approach to computing a death rate is to use the verified covid 19 deaths divided by the actual number of cases that have occurred in a given region during some space of time, which number can be obtained easily by conducting random samples in a region of interest. Random samples

need not be large—2500 tests in New York City would be sufficient to give the status at a given time. If government is to be relied on at all, then it should have led the way by conducting such random sampling, but, even now, has not done so.

- Other privately sponsored random sampling has finally taken place in Santa Clara, Los Angeles, and elsewhere and the results each time show that the denominator in the calculation is much larger than the number of “active cases” that is maintained by the authorities. The new numbers are all uniformly in the range of **0.1%** to **0.3%**—this is 1 death per 1000 to 3 deaths per thousand. This lower figure is the well known and documented mortality rate for the seasonal influenza. REPEATING FOR EMPHASIS: This lower figure is the well known and documented mortality rate for the seasonal influenza .
- The figures we are being asked to believe are 10-30 times those cited above.
- The fact that this exotic virus, introduced from a virology lab in a foreign country, has had no previous human exposure, gives the appearance of virulence through its tendency to be more contagious than influenza and to move more rapidly through a population, but in the last analysis, it is no more deadly than, say three (3x) times the seasonal influenza. Large numbers of those affected exhibit no symptoms.
- In light of these facts, all of the approaches being taken, by edict in all cases, to banish our fundamental liberties, are totally inappropriate and should be rescinded without further delays.
- In order to maintain these strictures and justify them, we continue to see these figures touted as valid, and moreover, we are seeing deliberate efforts to suppress reports of the results of the random sampling activities and studies—to wit, Facebook took down a video of two medical doctors reporting on their efforts, labeling it “harmful misinformation”.
- Given the above, it should be crystal clear to you folks that the restraints imposed do more harm than the virus itself through its economic and other damages.

So, now that **you** have been exposed to this information, the only valid action that **you** should be taking on behalf of the residents of this county is to announce that we are returning to the status quo ante, and that all liberties recently revoked are back in effect. Either that, or if I had my way, face a recall election. Seriously.

Rob Chrisman  
Avanguardia Wines  
Nevada City, CA  
District 4

## Julie Patterson-Hunter

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**From:** Robert Chrisman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 10, 2020 9:50 AM  
**To:** BOS Public Comment; Sue Hoek  
**Subject:** Comment Letter for May 12 meeting...  
**Attachments:** Letter to Supervisors.pdf

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Attached please find my comments concerning the Stage 2 Re-opening.

I am told that this will be read along with other comments before the meeting begins. Please see to it that this is done.

Rob Chrisman  
Owner/Winemaker  
Avanguardia Wines  
Nevada City, CA  
[REDACTED]

Dis 4

**Julie Patterson-Hunter**

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**From:** John and Sandy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 10, 2020 6:30 PM  
**To:** BOS Public Comment  
**Cc:** Sue Hoek  
**Subject:** COVID19 re-opening of Nevada County

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May 9, 2020

Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board County of Nevada  
950 Maidu Avenue  
Nevada City, CA 95959

RE: Nevada County Stay-at-Home Order Stage 2 Reopening

Dear Ms. Patterson Hunter,

As residents and retired business owners in Nevada County, we are concerned about our community.

We hope that our Supervisors follow the examples of neighboring counties whose COVID 19 data mirrors our own. The Supervisors of those counties have written letters to the Governor and reopened their counties with precautions in place. We watch many friends and neighbors go to these counties to get goods while our local businesses must remain closed. The businesses suffer and the county isn't collecting tax dollars as a result. There is an imbalance between the threat of COVID 19 and the threat to the community if businesses must remain closed. Small businesses are an important component of any community. Our county has many. They simply don't have the resources to survive without income.

We respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to write a resolution asking Governor Newsome to terminate the current state of emergency declaration, give local control back to the County of Nevada, and allow our businesses to re-open.

Sincerely,

*John and Sandy Palmer*

John and Sandy Palmer  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Amy Young [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 9, 2020 11:46 AM  
**To:** BOS Public Comment  
**Subject:** SAVE OUR BUSINESSES! Reopen Nevada County ASAP

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

My name is Amy Young, I reside in Penn Valley at 10441 Broken Oak Ct., Sup. District 4. I strongly urge the BOS to act decisively in reopening Nevada County fully in order to recover from this economic disaster as soon as possible, before it is too late.

Other rural counties have begun the process to reopen businesses. What is the Nevada County BOS's plan to look at our county individually? If you just follow the state, treating Nevada County like Bay Area or Los Angeles counties, many of our small businesses will fail or never re-open. This will be devastating to our county and it's future. Time to step up and put the prosperity of our county and its residents first.

Many science-based experts are recognizing that locking up healthy people is not the best way to fight this virus. We must of course keep infected and high risk people at home/in quarantine. But, this is the first time in history that healthy people have been quarantined, shutting down our economy, and not allowing the natural immunity process (sometimes called herd immunity) a chance to help fight this virus.

Science DOES back up our reopening. Cases in Nevada County are very low, hospitals are NOT overrun. Wasn't that the reason we were asked to stay home in the first place? Now that we have sacrificed our economic prosperity the goal posts have been moved. Why, exactly are we still home? This is an infringement on our civil liberties that I will never forget.

Finally, a word about our local businesses. Some are shops that are lucky to see a few customers an hour. God knows how they will survive. Why can't they open immediately? Why is it deemed "safe" to crowd in to hardware stores, grocery stores, and box-box stores down the hill, (activities which HAVE NOT caused further infections of COVID-19), while these ma-and-pa businesses suffer needlessly? Do you want to see them closed? They will leave gaping holes along our commercial streets that point to your inaction and lack of courage against a tyrannical governor.

Please, please, whatever your political sympathies may be, please put our residents and businesses first and foremost in your decisions this week. As for the virus/crisis du jour, we are adults and can figure it out for ourselves, we always have.

Sincerely, Amy Young

Dist 4

Twelve 28

May 8, 2020  
Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board County of Nevada  
950 Maidu Avenue  
Nevada City, CA 95959

RE: Nevada County Stay-at-Home Order Stage 2-3 Reopening

Dear Ms. Patterson Hunter,

*As residents, neighbors, and business owners in Nevada County, we care deeply about our communities. On March 19th, Governor Newsom issued his shelter-in-place order, closing non-essential businesses and prohibiting all non-essential travel. We knew that it was the right thing to do, to protect our community, business, and the traveling public. We commend the Governor for making this difficult decision and taking early action in the fight against COVID-19 and support the County of Nevada, issuing Stay-at-Home guidelines to keep us safe. (Please change offensive terminology, "essential and non-essential" as all humans are essential)*

I am working really hard at remaining calm and not angry and it's very difficult. As a small restaurant business owner and local philanthropist, I am extremely disappointed in the lack of help and true empathy regarding my family's situation, and I consider my team of employees as my family. I feel so much angst and sorrow for so many small businesses that have it much worse than we do, that government considers "Non-Essential". I could shoot holes all day long with all unsafe conditions (would take pages) in governmental steps taken and the Governors reasoning and procedure in allowing some business and huge corporations being allowed to stay open. Please don't take my disappointment in terms of financial cost as if I do not care for people's health, but we are not New York City.

Let me put in simple terms: If this shutdown effected politicians and wealthy individuals that are making these decisions financially like it has my family and millions of small businesses, a plan would have been in place much sooner. We would be on a level emotional and financial playing field if political figures were at risk of losing their house and ability to provide for yourselves and your family. Please fully absorb what I just said.

Governments will never see financial decisions in the same way entrepreneurs do, as it is not their money, it does not come out of an individual politicians wallet. I have personal experience in this matter as I have done work and provided services to political figures as well as some of the most iconic business people on the planet. Amazing to see how money is handled when it effects an individual personally. "You see a person's true colors, values and morals when money is involved"

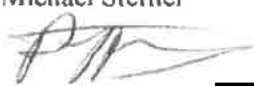
I have over half a million dollars invested in our restaurant over a 4-year period, and we are at risk of losing it all. After being forced to close in-house fine dining, I have not received and money or help from government, landlord, or any of our entities and or companies whom we pay every month, Our sales are one qtr. of normal and this comes on heels of the fires and power outages that shut us down. We have also faced increases in our cost of sales, including some that are going to triple, which we cannot pass on to customers whom are also suffering financially.

Remember the importance of small business to Society. Start showing some appreciation and respect to all small business. We provide jobs, sales tax, payroll taxes, property taxes and we don't even get paid for collecting and administrative costs to collect this money for the government. The only thing governments do is increase and extort more and more from small business and we are cringing to see how much future increases to small business are coming after this. Have fun budgeting governmental spending when 30-40% of small businesses vanish.

*We're heartened that the data on the Nevada County COVID 19 Dashboard is a clear indication that our community has been successful in following the State and Nevada County Stay-at-Home guidelines and that those afflicted with COVID 19 have recovered. Our curve is flattened, with no new cases reported.*

*I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors write a resolution asking California's Governor to terminate the current state of emergency declaration, give local control back to the County of Nevada and reopen our businesses, giving us control over how we conduct our business without ridiculous and worthless constraints that we do not agree with.*

Sincerely, Michael Sterner



Twelve 28 Kitchen





## Julie Patterson-Hunter

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**From:** Julie Patterson-Hunter  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 11:35 AM  
**To:** All BOS Board Members  
**Subject:** FW: Governor in violation of State Law?

Dist 4

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**From:** Ben Pope <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 11:29 AM  
**To:** bdofsupervisors <bdofsupervisors@co.nevada.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Governor in violation of State Law?

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Dear Nevada County Supervisors,

Take notice of Placer County Supervisor, Kirk Uhler. He is doing great things for the people of Placer County.

His argument is that the Governor is in violation of the California Emergency Services Act. He wrote the following note to our Governor.

-----  
*Dear Governor Newsom,*

*By what authority do you control how counties move forward?*

*Your current state of emergency declaration must be rescinded because the conditions required for a state of emergency no longer exist. State law is clear, the Governor 'shall proclaim the termination of a state of emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant'. We are well past that point.*

*State law only allows for a state of emergency when specific conditions exist, one of which is that conditions are beyond the control of the services of a county. Clearly, with only eight deaths and ten people hospitalized, Placer County is well in control of our ability to respond.*

*By definition, we in Placer County are not now, nor have we ever been in a state of emergency. A few counties might meet the definition of 'local emergency', but you are acting well outside your authority by trying to direct how counties operated at this point. I call upon Attorney General Xavier Becerra to step in and enforce state law before counties have to waste precious taxpayer dollars in costly litigation.*

*Sincerely,*

*Kirk Uhler*

Placer County Supervisor  
District 4

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Reference:

I am a resident of Nevada County - I live in Lake Wildwood. I would argue that you, our local government officials, have this virus under control. Therefore, you should fight to return us to normal. I don't want a 'new normal' because it stomps on our civil liberties. Let business decide for themselves how to open/operate and let patrons decide if they approve by whether they visit those businesses.

Stop cancelling our events and re-open our schools. Educate the citizens and let them decide how to act! We have 0 current cases and only 1 death in our county - it is insane to continue these draconian measures any longer.

Thank You,  
Ben Pope

## Julie Patterson-Hunter

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Dist 4

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*Sincerely,*

*Kirk Uhler*

Placer County Supervisor  
District 4

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Reference:



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Thank You,  
Ben Pope