

Environment Department

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR

James C. Kenney, Cabinet Secretary Jennifer J. Pruett, Deputy Secretary

The Environment Department's mission is to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations.

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
July 17, 2020

Contact: Maddy Hayden, Communications Director

New Mexico Environment Department 505.231.8800 | maddy.hayden@state.nm.us

Environment Department suspends food service permits for restaurants operating in violation of state law

Indoor dining at eateries endangering public health

This week, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) suspended food permits from four restaurants that opened for dine-in service in violation of the current public health orders, endangering the health of their employees and customers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

NMED suspended food service permits from:

- Los Hermanitos
 2400 West Main Street, Farmington
- Los Hermanitos
 3560 East Main Street, Farmington
- TJ's Diner
 119 East Main Street, Farmington
- Casey's Restaurant
 209 West Broadway Street, Hobbs

These restaurants are operating in violation of state food safety laws and must cease all operations immediately. Failing to do so may result in legal action from the Department. If the restaurants correct the violations, they may request that NMED reinstate their food service permit.

NMED also inspected Jalisco Café in Silver City on Wednesday, which was providing dine-in service. Upon inspection, the restaurant agreed to cease providing dine-in service.

NMED is also pursuing further enforcement against Pizza Inn locations in Carlsbad and Hobbs, as well as the Trinity Hotel in Carlsbad, which continue to operate after the state suspended their food service permits earlier this week.

The Food Service Sanitation Act (NMSA 1978, Section 25-1-9) authorizes NMED to immediately suspend a permit if "conditions within a food service establishment present a substantial danger of illness, serious physical harm or death to consumers who might patronize the food service establishment."

###

NMED does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age or sex in the administration of its programs or activities, as required by applicable laws and regulations. NMED is responsible for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning non-discrimination requirements implemented by 40 C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972. If you have any questions about this notice or any of NMED's non-discrimination programs, policies or procedures, you may contact:

 $\label{lem:kine_sum} \textbf{Kristine Yurdin}, Non-Discrimination Coordinator \mid NMED \mid 1190 \ St. \ Francis \ Dr., \ Suite \ N4050 \mid P.O. \ Box \ 5469 \mid Santa \ Fe, \ NM \ 87502 \ (505) \ 827-2855 \ or \ \underline{nd.coordinator@state.nm.us}$

If you believe that you have been discriminated against with respect to a NMED program or activity, you may contact the Non-Discrimination Coordinator.

###