



Department of Consumer & Business Services

Issued July 24, 2020

## Oregon OSHA COVID-19 Workplace Advisory Memo (7.24)

### ***The Effect of Open Carry and Concealed Carry on Facial Covering Requirements***

Oregon OSHA is aware that some individuals have advised business owners and others that individuals openly carrying firearms or carrying firearms under a concealed carry permit are prevented from wearing a facial covering that obscures their face and therefore are effectively exempt from the facial covering requirement when in public spaces. *This is incorrect.*

Neither federal law nor Oregon law prohibits a person who is openly carrying a firearm from wearing a face covering, nor is such a restriction reflected in Oregon laws related to concealed carry permits. Individuals exercising their second amendment rights to carry firearms can be required to wear a face covering consistent with the Governor's Executive Orders and guidance issued by the Oregon Health Authority. Therefore, Oregon OSHA expects employers who control such spaces to appropriately require the use of facial covering even in such circumstances.

For individuals who carry firearms and are concerned that others may be worried if they are also wearing a cloth facial covering, it is worth noting that a clear face shield that extends from below the chin to the forehead and that curves around the face is one acceptable way to comply with the current guidance without significantly obscuring the wearer's face.