Additional Information About Governor's Emergency Order No. 13

Below is some additional information about the gathering order from the Governor's Legal Office:

"We write to clarify the continuing effect of the part of the Governor's Emergency Order No. 13 that limits gatherings to ten or fewer persons. That Order has always included the following exception to that limitation: "This Order does not prohibit gatherings of more than 10 people in an unenclosed, outdoor space such as a park, athletic field, or parking lot." Thus, Emergency Order No. 13 DOES NOT limit gatherings in an unenclosed, outdoor space to ten people. Guidance by the Department of Public Health advises that social distancing should be practiced at all times, and people are required to wear a face covering if they cannot maintain at least six feet of space between themselves and others.

For instance, a political demonstration in a public square is not limited to 10 people, but the demonstrators must wear a mask if they do not stay at least six feet apart.

The full provision of Order No. 13 as it concerns gatherings is pasted below.

"3. Limitations on Gatherings

Gatherings of more than 10 people are prohibited throughout the Commonwealth. Gatherings subject to this Order include, without limitation, community, civic, public, leisure, faith-based, or sporting events, concerts, conferences, conventions, fundraisers, parades, fairs, festivals, weddings, funerals, and any similar event or activity that brings together more than 10 persons in any confined indoor or outdoor space. This limitation shall not apply to the operations or activities of any business or organization in its provision or delivery of COVID-19 Essential Services.

This Order does not prohibit gatherings of more than 10 people in an unenclosed, outdoor space such as a park, athletic field, or parking lot.

Athletic and recreational activities that bring participants into close, physical contact are prohibited even when involving 10 or fewer people and regardless of where conducted.""