



**Bob Ferguson**

**ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON**

Consumer Protection Division

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May 20, 2020

Robert Daniel Martin  
d/b/a The Stag Barber Shop  
1401 North Ave D  
Snohomish, Washington 98290

**NOTICE TO CEASE AND DESIST**

Dear Mr. Martin:

Under the Governor's Emergency Proclamation 20-25, Stay Home, Stay Healthy, all nonessential business in the State of Washington must be closed. We are aware of numerous complaints and have independently confirmed that your barbershop is open in violation of the Governor's Proclamation. You must cease and desist operations of your barbershop activities until permitted under the Governor's Proclamations.

On May 4, 2020, the Washington Department of Licensing notified you in writing that your operations of The Stag Barbershop violated the Governor's Stay Home, Stay Healthy Proclamation. On May 5, the Department of Licensing sent you a second notice. On May 7, 2020, you were served with a summary suspension of your cosmetology operator license. Since your license was suspended, you have continued operating your barbershop. Engaging in the commercial practice of hair styling and barbering without a license is a violation of RCW 18.16.060 and a violation of the Consumer Protection Act, RCW 18.16.250.

On May 8, the Snohomish Health District issued you a warning letter, and on May 15 they issued a Health Officer's Order (20-065) because your on-going barbershop operations were in violation of state law and threatened public health. The May 15 Health Officer's Order required you to cease and desist from conducting any barber, styling, or cosmetic services within Snohomish County.

We understand the financial impact of Stay Home, Stay Healthy, but that does not exempt you from the requirement to remain closed. The Stay Home, Stay Healthy order is necessary for public health. The COVID-19 virus spreads easily from person to person and the only way to control it, and save lives, is to maintain social distancing, including closing nonessential business. By keeping your barbershop open, you are endangering the lives of your customers and your community.

It is also unfair for you to offer barbershop services while your competitors are complying with the Proclamation and making sacrifices for the benefit of the community. Opening your barbershop when competing business are complying with the Governor's Proclamations to protect the health of all Washingtonians gives you an unfair advantage over your competitors. In order to level the playing field and ensure the market is fair for all, you must cease your barbershop activities and operation.

Unless you follow the direction of the Governor, the Department of Licensing, and the Snohomish Health District, and close your barbershop within 48 hours, we will have no choice but to file a lawsuit against you and seek monetary penalties. This is your final warning.

Sincerely,

*Daniel Allen*

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Assistant Attorney General  
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