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Adam J. Rocco

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ROCCO QUOTED IN *CINCINNATI BUSINESS COURIER* STORY ON RESTAURANT REOPENINGS AMID COVID-19

June 12, 2020

Adam Rocco, a partner in the Vorys Columbus office, was quoted in a *Cincinnati Business Courier* story about restaurant reopenings in Ohio. Ohio restaurants were ordered closed due to the COVID-19 related executive order on March 15, except for carryout and delivery service. Those restrictions began easing, with outdoor dining allowed on May 15 and indoor dining May 21. According to the article, some restaurants have reopened but at a limited capacity while others have opted to stay closed for a while longer.

The story states:

"When it comes to other open congregate areas, as it reads right now, patrons probably can't take their beer to a billiards table or pinball machine, as the order states beverages must be consumed while seated. But does that mean someone could bring a chair to a billiards table to stay on the right side of that order? Rocco expects the rules to be clarified as those areas reopen.

'A lot of what we're talking about is relatively new,' he said. 'Changes are coming rapidly and it's a constantly evolving process, and there are so many other things that make this extremely difficult, like the concern that patrons won't come back in large numbers.'

Rocco's advice is that when a business owner is in doubt, they should reach out to state or local health departments, or the Ohio Restaurant Association. If it's a legal question, they should contact their attorney.

'Asking first is a good idea,' he said. 'The local health department is a great place to start. They're supposed to be there to help and guide on those things.'

To read the full article, [click here](#). (Subscription may be required).

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VORYS COVID-19 TASK FORCE

Vorys attorneys and professionals are counseling our clients in the myriad issues related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. We have also established a comprehensive Coronavirus Task Force, which includes attorneys with deep experience in the niche disciplines that we have been and expect to continue receiving questions regarding coronavirus. Learn more and see the latest updates from the task force at vorys.com/coronavirus.