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You'll Have to Do This One Thing Before You Return to Work Amid Coronavirus

A CORONAVIRUS WAIVER MAY BECOME AN ESSENTIAL PART OF YOUR EMPLOYMENT FROM HERE ON OUT.



JUNE 15, 2020



Shellenbrook/Anna Ditts

Whether you're signing up for a gym membership or starting a new job, you're probably no stranger to completing a stack of paperwork before you begin. However, in light of the **COVID-19 pandemic**, there's a new form that might top that pile: a **coronavirus waiver**.

According to a June 11 report from ESPN, **football players at**

indicating their understanding that they may be exposed to coronavirus during their practices and agreeing to abide by the guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). These include **wearing masks in public** and maintaining social distance, self-monitoring for **coronavirus symptoms**, and self-quarantining if necessary. Similar forms have recently been adopted as requirements for **attending a rally**, returning to **work at the New York Stock Exchange**, and **working out at certain branches of the YMCA**.

"Any activities where it may be challenging to **practice social distancing** will likely use similar waivers, but be aware that these waivers should not absolve the venue and organizers from still taking recommended national and local precautions to keep people safe," says **family physician Monique May, MD**.



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lies and not against your policy," explains attorney **Craig**

Lamber, chairperson of the **personal injury practice** at Fennemore Craig.

That said, proving that you contracted the coronavirus from a particular activity isn't especially easy to prove from a legal standpoint. "Because COVID-19 is so widespread and contagious, has such a long incubation period, and can be spread by **people who are asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic**, it will be an uphill battle to demonstrate that someone contacted COVID-19 at a business versus all the other possible sources of transmission," explains Lamber.

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May adds that just because businesses and events are using the waivers doesn't mean you should let down your guard. "Be sure to take common sense precautions and social distance and **wear masks** as much as you can," says May, who also recommends only patronizing businesses that are adhering to the guidelines set out by the CDC.

emerge to safety recommendations, keep it and opt for virtual options instead," she says. And if you want to know what other changes you can expect to see at work, check out these **5 Things You'll Never See in Your Office Again After Coronavirus**.



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