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*** LAW ALERT***

**CDC SHORTENS QUARANTINE
AND ISOLATION PERIOD**

On December 27, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) released updated guidance shortening the quarantine and isolation periods for individuals with COVID-19. The CDC's updated recommendation shortened isolation for individuals with COVID-19, if asymptomatic, from 10 days to 5 days, followed by an additional 5 days of mask wearing when around other people.

Additionally, the CDC now recommends a five (5) day quarantine followed by strict mask use for five (5) days for those exposed to COVID-19 who are unvaccinated or those who received their second dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccination more than six (6) months ago (or more than two months after the J&J vaccination) and have not received a booster. The CDC guidance recommends alternatively, if a 5-day quarantine is not feasible, "it is imperative" for the exposed individual to wear a well-fitting mask at all times while around other people for 10 days after exposure.

The guidance further provides that individuals who have received a booster do not need to quarantine after exposure to someone with COVID-19, but should wear a mask for ten (10) days following the exposure. Further, the CDC states that best practices include taking a test on day 5 after exposure.

The Illinois Department of Public Health has not yet updated its guidance to reflect the shortened quarantine and isolation periods.

If you have any questions or need further guidance to navigate COVID-19 related issues, please contact our Collinsville Office at (618) 301-4060.