

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
JOINT INFORMATION CENTER
Telephone (707) 441-5000



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 30, 2020

For more information, contact:
JIC PIO
(707) 441-5000
covidinfo@co.humboldt.ca.us

Sheriff signals strong opposition to anticipated beach closure announcement

Humboldt County Sheriff William Honsal announced this morning firm opposition to an anticipated announcement by Governor Gavin Newsom that would close all beaches in California.

News of the closure leaked last night, prompting an immediate and pointed response from the Sheriff. "As Sheriff, I am the protector of constitutional rights in Humboldt County," he said, "and if an order is issued that I believe violates our constitutional rights, I will not enforce it."

The governor's expected announcement is in response to crowds of people that converged on two Southern California beaches over the weekend. On Monday, Humboldt County was singled out by the governor for having abided by the order and using local beaches responsibly.

"The governor is a smart man," Honsal said. "I hope he follows sound advice. It is not okay to punish Northern California for Southern California's mistake, and I hope he hears that loud and clear."

The governor's speech is scheduled for noon today.

For the most recent COVID-19 information, visit [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) or [cdph.ca.gov](https://www.cdph.ca.gov). Local information is available at [humboldt.gov](https://www.humboldt.gov) or during business hours by contacting covidinfo@co.humboldt.ca.us or calling 707-441-5000.

Follow us on Facebook: [@HumCoCOVID19](https://www.facebook.com/HumCoCOVID19),
Instagram: [@HumCoCOVID19](https://www.instagram.com/HumCoCOVID19),
Twitter: [@HumCoCOVID19](https://twitter.com/HumCoCOVID19), and
Humboldt Health Alert: [humboldt.gov/HumboldtHealthAlert](https://www.humboldt.gov/HumboldtHealthAlert)

###