On May 4, 2020, Governor Doug Ducey issued Executive Order 2020-34, which modifies Executive Order 2020-09. The Department has issued guidance on Executive order 2020-06, which is available here; (https://azliquor.gov/assets/documents/homepage_docs/COVID-19_Business_Operation_Update.pdf). The Governor's new Executive Order 2020-34 states as follows:

Notwithstanding Executive Order 2020-09, effective Monday, May 11, 2020, dine-in services may resume provided they establish and implement protocols and best practices for business to address COVID-19, including enacting physical distancing policies limiting the number of diners and follow protocols as directed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the United States Department of Labor Division of Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the Arizona Department of Health Services. All other provisions of Executive Order 2020-09 shall remain in effect.

The Department interprets Executive Order 2020-34 to permit dine-in services at on-sale licensed establishments that follow the listed protocols and best practices (https://azgovernor.gov/sites/default/files/guidance_for_restaurants_one_page.pdf), regardless of the on-sale license type. Executive Order 2020-34 does not eliminate any temporary privileges that Executive Order 2020-09 provided and the Department's earlier guidance addressed. Nor does Executive Order 2020-34 grant any new privileges to any licensees. The Department will interpret dine-in by its plain meaning, which is that whereas under Executive Order 2020-09 on-sale licensees could not allow patrons to dine inside their licensed premises, under Executive Order 2020-34, on-sale licensees that follow the listed protocols and best practices can permit patrons to dine inside their licensed premises.

John Cocca
Director