Via Email Only

Eileen Quinn
Andrew Wommack Ministries, Inc.
1 Innovation Way
Woodland Park, CO 80863

RE: Executive Order D 2020 091 and Eighth Updated Public Health Order 20-28
Safer at Home and in the Vast, Great Outdoors Requirements

Dear Ms. Quinn:

This office represents the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). As you are aware, it has come to CDPHE’s attention that Andrew Wommack Ministries, Inc. is hosting events with large numbers of people in confined indoor spaces. It is CDPHE’s understanding, based on conversations with you regarding this organization, that the Summer Family Bible Conference 2020 is hosting between 300 and 500 individuals in single shared spaces at Charis Bible College in Teller County, Colorado. If correct, this action is in direct violation of Executive Order D 2020 091, issued by Governor Polis on June 1, 2020, and extended by Executive Order D 2020 123, and the Eighth Amended Public Health Order 20-28, Safer at Home and in the Vast, Great Outdoors, issued by Jill Hunsaker Ryan, MPH, Executive Director of CDPHE on June 30, 2020.

Pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-704(2), Executive Order D 2020 091, and as extended, has the full force and effect of law. Eighth Updated Public Health Order 20-28 is issued pursuant to the Governor’s directive and CDPHE’s power “to investigate and control the causes of epidemic and communicable diseases affecting the public health,” C.R.S. § 25-1.5-102(1)(a)(I). Both the executive order and the public health order prohibit people from gathering in groups of ten or more unless specifically allowed by one of the orders.
Effective June 18, 2020, indoor and outdoor events are permitted as long as they operate within specific requirements. Eighth Amended Public Health Order 20-28 § I.H.4. An indoor venue is permitted to host a maximum of 100 people in a given indoor venue, assuming that the venue can provide adequate space per person. § I.H.4.b. Counties can seek a variance from the requirements of a public health order. § V. CDPHE has granted two variances to Teller County. Under the terms of the approved variances, indoor events are limited to a maximum of 175 people at any given time, assuming that appropriate social distancing can be observed.

If Andrew Wommack Ministries is hosting events where more than 175 people are present in a single confined indoor space, that action would be a violation of Executive Order 2020 091 as extended by Executive Order D 2020 123 and the Eighth Amended Public Health Order 20-28. If that is the case, you are directed to immediately cease hosting events that violate the terms of the executive order, the public health order, and the approved Teller County variance, or to otherwise bring those events into compliance with the orders. This applies to both the conference events you are hosting this week as well as any post-conference activities.

If our understanding is incorrect, we ask you to share the details of your event management plan with us. CDPHE, and no doubt your local public health agency, would be willing to work with you to determine under what circumstances your events can move forward. However, immediate compliance with the orders is compulsory, and any future or continuing non-compliance will be subject to the full force and effect of injunctive relief to enforce Executive Order D 2020 091 and Public Health Order 20-28, including entry of a temporary restraining order.

Please contact us by July 3, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. to confirm that you are in compliance with the applicable executive and public health orders, or to discuss your plans to do so.

Sincerely,

FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

W. Eric Kuhn
Senior Assistant Attorney General
Email: eric.kuhn@coag.gov