State of New Jersey Mandates Vaccinations/Testing for Certain Workplaces

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By: Kerri Wright, Melanie Lipomanis

Yesterday, Governor Murphy issued a press release announcing a state-wide mandate requiring all employees in certain private and public settings to be vaccinated or be subject to COVID-19 testing at minimum one to two times per week.

This mandate applies to certain state and private health care facilities and high-risk congregate settings, including but not limited to the following private settings:

- Long-term care and assisted-living facilities
- County jails
- Acute-care hospitals and specialty hospitals
- Short-term and post-acute in-patient rehabs
- Licensed behavioral health facilities
- Home health agencies

Covered facilities will have until **September 7, 2021** for all employees to come into full compliance with the vaccine mandate. The Governor "strongly encouraged" private settings "to consider instituting requirements above and beyond the baseline that will be required by the State."

You can review the announcement and full listing of covered facilities here:

Office of the Governor | Governor Murphy Announces Vaccine Requirement for Workers in Health Care Facilities and High-Risk Congregate Settings (nj.gov)

While the Governor did not offer much specific guidance in his Press Release, it is expected that the State will issue more details in the coming days or weeks. In the meantime, this directive raises a number of employment and labor-related issues that your organization may need to address. Porzio's Labor and Employment team is available to assist your organization in implementing this new mandate.