State of California
Department of Industrial Relations
Division of Occupational Safety and Health
Van Nuys District Office
6150 Van Nuys Blvd, Suite 405
Van Nuys, CA 91401
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Inspection #:   1476044
Inspection Dates: 05/21/2020 - 09/24/2020
Issuance Date: 09/24/2020
CSHO ID: O6260
Optional Report #: 016-20

Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Ralphs Grocery Company
Establishment DBA: Ralphs #133
                      and its successors
Inspection Site: 10901 Ventura Blvd.
                      Studio City, CA 91604

Citation 1 Item 1   Type of Violation: **Serious**

Title 8, California Code of Regulations, Section 3203(a). Injury and Illness Prevention Program.

(a) Effective July 1, 1991, every employer shall establish, implement and maintain an effective Injury and Illness Prevention Program (Program). The Program shall be in writing and, shall, at a minimum:

(4) Include procedures for identifying and evaluating work place hazards including scheduled periodic inspections to identify unsafe conditions and work practices. Inspections shall be made to identify and evaluate hazards:
(A) When the Program is first established;
(B) Whenever new substances, processes, procedures, or equipment are introduced to the workplace that represent a new occupational safety and health hazard; and
(C) Whenever the employer is made aware of a new or previously unrecognized hazard.

(6) Include methods and/or procedures for correcting unsafe or unhealthy conditions, work practices and work procedures in a timely manner based on the severity of the hazard:
(A) When observed or discovered; and,
(B) When an imminent hazard exists which cannot be immediately abated without endangering employee(s) and/or property, remove all exposed personnel from the area except those necessary to correct the existing condition. Employees necessary to correct the hazardous condition shall be provided the necessary safeguards.

In the Alternative to Instance 2a:

Title 8, California Code of Regulations, Section 5141(a). Control of Harmful Exposure to Employees.

(a) Engineering Controls. Harmful exposures shall be prevented by engineering controls whenever feasible.

Violation

Prior to and during the course of the inspection, including, but not limited to, on May 21, 2020, the employer failed to implement and maintain an effective Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP) in the following instances:

Instance 1: The employer failed to effectively identify or evaluate workplace hazards relating to COVID-19 including, but not limited to, the following hazards:
a) The lack of physical distancing or physical barriers between employees and customers at the cheese service department, and
b) The inability of employees to maintain physical distancing between themselves and customers due to the number of customers in the store; [3203(a)(4)] and

Instance 2: The employer failed to effectively implement methods or procedures to correct unhealthy conditions or work practices relating to COVID-19, including, but not limited to:
a) The lack of physical distancing or physical barriers between employees and customers at the cheese service department, and
b) The inability of employees to maintain physical distancing between themselves and customers due to the number of customers in the store. [3203(a)(6)]

Or, in the Alternative to Instance 2a

Prior to and during the course of the inspection, including, but not limited to, on May 21, 2020, the employer failed to prevent harmful exposures of employees to infectious or potentially infectious airborne particles by ensuring the use of engineering controls to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including, but not limited to, plexiglass screens or other physical barriers to limit contact and block potentially infectious particles from being released at the cheese service department when a person breathes, speaks, coughs, or sneezes.

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:	**October 09, 2020**
Proposed Penalty:	**$13500.00**

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Zulfiquar Merchant
Compliance Officer / District Manager