

# WACA ALERT

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## **COVID-19 Comprehensive Construction Industry Resources Update**

Our office continues to be inundated with requests for information as we all deal with the specific construction industry complexities relating to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. As we are also displaced by the statewide "shelter in place" action, please note we are somewhat limited in our ability to assist at our normal capacity. To best distribute frequently requested information, enclosed please find general resources to help contractors navigate the many uncertainties during this unprecedented and difficult time. Please feel free to continue to contact us should you have any questions.

### **COVID-19 Government Informational Website**

California has launched a comprehensive COVID-19 public awareness [website](#) that highlights critical steps people can take to stay healthy and resources available to Californians impacted by the outbreak, including unemployment and other benefit information and assistance.

### **Statewide Shelter in Place Order**

In an effort to control the spread of the COVID-19 virus, California has issued a Statewide shelter in place "Stay-at-Home" [Order](#). Construction, including housing construction, is considered an essential need during the COVID-19 crisis. The directive reads as follows: "The California State Public Health Officer and Director of the California Department of Public Health is ordering all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence, except as needed to maintain continuity of operation of the federal critical infrastructure sectors, critical government services, schools, childcare, and construction, including housing construction." This important clarification allows our industry to continue working.

[Executive Order N-33-20](#) took effect March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and shall stay in effect until further notice.

The directive is consistent with the federal [Memorandum on Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers During the COVID-19 Response](#), which was also issued March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

We are still working to determine whether the Governor's order supersedes local orders already in place.

### **Worker Safety**

Workplace safety and health regulations in California require employers to protect workers exposed to airborne infectious diseases such as the coronavirus. Cal/OSHA has posted general industry [guidance](#) to help employers comply with these safety requirements and to provide workers information on how to protect themselves. We encourage contractors to review the Cal/OSHA provided [guidance](#).

### **Helpful State Agency Information**

*California Department of Public Health*

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

[CDPH News Releases 2020](#)

*California Employment Development Department (EDD)*

[Information about filing for paid family leave, state disability insurance or unemployment insurance.](#)

*California Labor Commissioner's Office*

[Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) – FAQs on laws enforced by the California Labor Commissioner's Office](#)

[Cal/OSHA](#)

[Cal/OSHA Guidance on Requirements to Protect Workers from Coronavirus](#)

**Helpful Covid-19 Legal Briefs**

[EEOC - Employers Allowed to Take Temperatures During Pandemic](#)

[Congress Finalizes COVID-19 Coronavirus Response Act](#)

[California "Suspends" Its WARN Act Under Certain Circumstances Amid COVID-19 Crisis](#)