

COVID-19 ALERT: March 24 Updates

March 24, 2020

Below is an updated compilation of COVID-19 key information and resources for GADA members:

Executive Orders

- On March 23, 2020 Governor Kemp issued an executive order to reduce the continued spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in Georgia. [View copy of Executive Order](#)
- Governor Kemp's Executive Order allows businesses to remain open if less than 10 people are gathered at a single location; and if more than 10 people are gathered at a single location, then such business must keep people at least six feet apart from one another.
- Accordingly, for now, unless a local municipal order has been issued, dealerships can continue current sales and service operations, provided these conditions are met. The state Department of Public Health is empowered to close any business that does not comply with these restrictions, so dealers are advised to strictly adhere to the terms of the Order.
- While the Governor's current Order does not distinguish between essential and non-essential businesses, this issue remains a concern for GADA. As such, GADA sent a letter to the Governor's office on March 23, 2020 urging him to deem dealership sales and service operations as essential. [View GADA's letter to the Governor](#)
- GADA has prepared and recently revised a form letter that dealers can customize and send to local municipalities that may be considering taking action to close businesses. For a copy of this form letter, please email legal@gada.com. Keep in mind that local municipalities have broad authority in areas of public safety, such that if a local municipality has adopted provisions that are more

restrictive than statewide restrictions, local restrictions will be enforceable.

- We are aware of some local jurisdictions that have issued Orders. To the extent your local county or municipality has issued such an Order, we would appreciate if you would let us know at legal@gada.com.
- NADA continues to work on this issue at the federal level. On March 17, NADA sent a letter to President Donald J. Trump stressing the urgent need to consider vehicle repair, maintenance and sales facilities as essential operations during the nation's response to the coronavirus. Subsequently, just yesterday, NADA, sent another letter to President Trump urging designation of sales and service operations as essential. [View NADA's March 23 letter to President Trump](#)

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act for Employers

- This federal Act includes many provisions which apply to employers, such as paid sick leave for employees impacted by COVID-19 and those serving as caregivers for individuals with COVID-19. [View a summary of the Act](#), provided by Fisher Phillips.
- In addition, last Thursday, March 19, NADA conducted a webinar during which key provisions of the Families First Act were discussed. [Log in to view archived webinar](#)
- NADA has also distributed an article summarizing the Act, which can be found [here](#).
- To clarify cash flow issues as they related to the provisions in the Families First Act, the U.S. Treasury has issued guidance. [View guidance](#)
- Finally, in conjunction with the Families First Act, Congress continues to debate the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. (S3548). NADA and GADA will report on this as more information become available.

Tag & Title Information

- GADA has been reaching out to the Georgia Department of Revenue on various tag and title issues. Once we have information, we will provide it to our members.
- For now, please refer to this [list of county tag offices](#) and the services they are providing.

Other Guidance for Business

- A general FAQ addressing many issues including workplace safety, workers compensation and Americans with Disabilities Act. [View here](#)
- Dixon Hughes Goodman has also developed a knowledge resource page addressing among other items, tax issues. www.dhg.com/covid-19
- The Georgia Department of Labor has addressed partial unemployment claims for reduced hours. Important information can be viewed [here](#).
- [CDC Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers](#)
- [OSHA Guidance 3990-Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#)

The GADA staff stands ready to assist members. If you have any questions, please direct them to legal@gada.com.

