

March 23, 2020

Both the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and this State have declared that, as part of the social distancing strategy to slow the outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”), only essential services should continue to remain in operation during the state of emergency. Most jurisdictions have issued lists of “essential services” industries, which include construction services generally, and which specifically cover providing safety and maintenance services to industrial, commercial, and residential locations.

This letter has been prepared for its members by the International Door Association (“IDA”), a nonprofit trade association representing door and access systems all over the world, and with the goal of advancing the industry with increased professionalism and product quality unmatched by any other industry. IDA has reviewed the emergency declarations, including “shelter in place” and “stay at home” orders, throughout the United States, and determined that those orders have uniformly identified essential businesses, and businesses necessary to maintain the continuity of operations to federal critical infrastructure sectors, as identified by the US Department of Homeland Security’s Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (“CISA”), as being exempt from said orders.

Among those exempted “essential businesses” are grocery stores, drug stores, medical facilities, logistics providers, hardware providers, and government facilities. Additionally, most stay-at-home orders recognize that maintenance of residential structures is also an “essential service.”

This service technician is operating pursuant to the CDC guidelines regarding maintaining “social distancing” and other safe working practices. Service, repairs, and replacements of garage doors, electric openers, gates, gate openers, and other access systems and their components are critical to ensure that necessary movement of people and vehicles is not compromised, as well as to protect the health and safety of citizens, businesses, governmental units, and their property and facilities. We request that you permit this service technician, who is employed by an IDA member, to perform his duties in recognition of said services being classified as an “essential service” under federal and state guidelines.