

## **HR Tracker, ¶46,759, Gov. Cuomo: “New York State on PAUSE” — STATE LAW, (Mar. 24, 2020)**

As of 8:00 p.m. Sunday, March 22, a directive is in place that all nonessential businesses statewide must close in-office personnel functions.

The directive is part of the “New York State on PAUSE” Executive Order—a 10-point policy to assure uniform safety for everyone, in response to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). The Executive Order was signed by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo on March 20, 2020. The Order also temporarily bans all nonessential gatherings of individuals of any size for any reason.

This Order follows previous orders that first reduced the workforce to 50 percent, then 75 percent. Now, 100 percent of the workforce in New York State must stay home. All businesses and not-for-profit entities in the state must use, to the maximum extent possible, any telecommuting or work from home procedures that can safely be utilized. Each employer shall reduce the in-person workforce at any work locations by 100% no later than March 22 at 8 p.m. Any essential business or entity providing essential services or functions shall not be subject to the in-person restrictions. An entity providing essential services or functions whether to an essential business or a non-essential business shall not be subjected to the in-person work restriction, but may operate at the level necessary to provide such service or function. Any business violating the above order shall be subject to enforcement as if this were a violation of an order pursuant to section 12 of the Public Health Law.

As noted, exceptions are made for essential services such as groceries and healthcare. The Governor has issued a Guidance on what is considered “essential services” under the Order.

### **PAUSE 10-point policy**

The Governor's 10-point NYS on PAUSE plan is as follows:

1. Effective at 8PM on Sunday, March 22, all non-essential businesses statewide will be closed;
2. Non-essential gatherings of individuals of any size for any reason (e.g. parties, celebrations or other social events) are canceled or postponed at this time;
3. Any concentration of individuals outside their home must be limited to workers providing essential services and social distancing should be practiced;
4. When in public individuals must practice social distancing of at least six feet from others;
5. Businesses and entities that provide other essential services must implement rules that help facilitate social distancing of at least six feet;
6. Individuals should limit outdoor recreational activities to non-contact and avoid activities where they come in close contact with other people;
7. Individuals should limit use of public transportation to when absolutely necessary and should limit potential exposure by spacing out at least six feet from other riders;
8. Sick individuals should not leave their home unless to receive medical care and only after a telehealth visit to determine if leaving the home is in the best interest of their health;
9. Young people should also practice social distancing and avoid contact with vulnerable populations; and
10. Use precautionary sanitizer practices such as using isopropyl alcohol wipes.

### **Temporary halt on evictions, including commercial**

The Governor also announced a 90-day moratorium on any residential or commercial evictions.

### **Manufacturing plea**

Additionally, amid a shortage of personal protective equipment—or PPE—products in the state, including gloves, masks and gowns, the Governor is asking all PPE product providers to sell to the state any products that are

not essential or not currently being used. Businesses interested in selling products to the state should contact Simonida Subotic at 646-522-8477 or covid19supplies@exec.ny.gov.

The Governor is also encouraging any company with the proper equipment or personnel to begin to manufacture PPE products if possible. The state is willing to provide funding to any company to obtain the proper equipment and personnel. Businesses interested in receiving state funding to manufacture PPE products should contact Eric Gertler at 212-803-3100 or COVID19supplies@esd.ny.gov.

The Governor is asking businesses to be creative if they can manufacture needed supplies—Interested businesses should contact Empire State Development.

For further information on COVID-19: New York State Department of Health's COVID-19 Webpage.

**Source:** State of New York, Office of the Governor, Press Releases, March 23, 2020 and March 20, 2020.