

## **Latest on Re-Opening the Economy – April 24, 2020**

With state and local governments gearing back up to re-open the economy, many employers are seeking answers to the challenging issues they will face as they resume their business operations amidst COVID-19.

Covington & Burling LLP has published a four-part series report, the final part of which was recently released, examining the most challenging issues faced by employers who are planning to re-open or continue productive operations. The report addresses key employer considerations, including:

1. Navigating the Legal Risk of Return
2. Considering Screening Measures for Employees Returning to Work
3. General Workplace Safety Precautions
4. Accommodating Special Circumstances (Recently Released)

To read the report, go to:

<https://www.cov.com/-/media/files/corporate/publications/2020/04/opening-the-doors-return-to-workplace-considerations-during-covid-19-part-four-accommodating-special-circumstances.pdf>

In addition, Nixon Peabody recently released an article for employers regarding recommendations and requirements regarding face coverings for employees.

Following a recent trend among public health organizations, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently released guidance recommending that the general public wear cloth face coverings in public settings.

Some states and municipalities are issuing similar recommendations, with some jurisdictions even legally requiring face coverings for the public and/or employees in some or all businesses and organizations. Whether recommended or required, employee use of cloth face coverings at work raises difficult new questions for employers.

To read the full article from Nixon Peabody, go to:

[https://www.nixonpeabody.com/en/ideas/articles/2020/04/24/cdc-released-coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-recommending-general-public-wear-face-coverings?utm\\_medium=alert&utm\\_source=interaction&utm\\_campaign=employment-law](https://www.nixonpeabody.com/en/ideas/articles/2020/04/24/cdc-released-coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-recommending-general-public-wear-face-coverings?utm_medium=alert&utm_source=interaction&utm_campaign=employment-law)

As we have previously reported, more state governors are beginning to explore the logistics of how to re-open their states economies. NAW has been monitoring the reports of states re-opening and are working to identify a central resource for NAW members to utilize in tracking the flow of information.

Once NAW identifies a resource that will provide sufficient resources and information we will highlight the location. Recently, three states governors have announced new plans to re-open their states. According to the firm Stateside Associates, the specifics of these re-opening orders are:

- Maryland Governor Larry Hogan (R) has announced that barber shops and salons may provide services to employees of essential businesses that have remained open during the Stay At Home order and during orders that have closed non-essential businesses. Additional requirements have been mandated for salons and barber shops that re-open. The businesses may not accept walk-ins; only one customer is allowed in the establishment at a given time; facemasks must be worn by customers and employees; and more.
- Montana Governor Steve Bullock (D) has announced a gradual and phased re-opening of the state beginning April 26 for individuals and extending to non-essential businesses on April 27. The plan to re-open gradually is based on the latest scientific evidence and data, and in consultation with public health experts, health care providers, business leaders, and emergency management professionals.
- New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham (D) announced that the state would be extending all public health orders through May 15. The state will get direct input from business and employee groups in industries statewide to make health-drive decisions about safe reopening procedures.

Akin Gump, LLP also provides a COVID-19 U.S. State & Local Response Map to see detailed information regarding specific state, county and municipal orders.

To view the interactive map, go to:

<https://solutions.akingump.com/covid19/>

