

**PR GOVERNOR ISSUES EXECUTIVE ORDER REQUIRING BUSINESS  
LOCKDOWN**

On March 15, 2020, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Governor Hon. Wanda Vázquez-Garced issued Executive Order OE-2020-023 to implement the necessary and temporary closure of almost all governmental and private sector operations in order to combat the effects of Coronavirus (Covid-19) and to control the risk of infection in Puerto Rico.

The Executive Order implements the closure of all governmental operations except for those related to essential services. This includes the closure of all businesses in Puerto Rico starting March 15, 2020 until March 30, 2020, except for food retail or wholesale businesses providing services through drive-thru, carry-out, or delivery only, including prepared foods, medications or medical equipment, pharmacies, supermarkets, gas stations, banking or financial institutions, nursing homes, or other businesses related to the food, medical products, or fuel supply chains.

The order for total closure applies to shopping centers, movie theaters, dance clubs, concert halls, theaters, game or gambling rooms, casinos, amusement parks, gyms, bars, or any similar place or event that may promote the gathering of a group of citizens in the same place.

A curfew prohibits traveling on public roads from 9:00 pm to 5:00 am, but It allows travel on public roads from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. only under the following circumstances:

- (a) Purchasing food, pharmaceutical, and basic necessity products;
- (b) keeping medical appointments or visiting a hospital, laboratory, or healthcare facility;
- (c) going or coming from a workplace whose closure has not been ordered thereunder, public and private employees who perform essential work;
- (d) returning to a usual place of residence from an allowed activity;
- (e) to provide assistance, care, transportation to, for and of senior citizens, children, dependents, people with disabilities or people who require any type of medical or professional attention. The above, provided that all necessary precautions are taken to prevent infection;

(f) visiting financial institutions.

During the curfew, citizens may only travel on public roads in an emergency situation. Individuals authorized under the Order due to work and/or emergency reasons are excluded from the curfew.

The following individuals are authorized to travel on public roads to and from work when necessary: individuals duly identified as public or private security agency employees at the state and federal levels; health professionals; personnel working in hospitals, pharmacies, pharmaceutical companies, bioscience facilities or health centers; personnel working in the wholesale food and product manufacturing and supply chain, from their origin to consumer retail outlets; personnel working with utilities or critical infrastructure; call centers; ports and airports personnel; members of the press; or citizens who are addressing emergency or health situations.

Failure to comply with the Emergency Executive Order by any person and/or business may result in the imposition of criminal penalties and fines which may be a term of imprisonment not to exceed six (6) months or a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or both penalties, at the court's discretion.

The Puerto Rico Department of Labor may issue further directives and is open to receiving inquiries from any affected entity. We will keep you apprised of any such further development.

If you have any question or concern, please Contact us

Alicia Figueroa Llinás  
[afigueroa@pmalaw.com](mailto:afigueroa@pmalaw.com)  
+1 (787) 274-5253

Juan C. Pérez Otero  
[jcperez@pmalaw.com](mailto:jcperez@pmalaw.com)  
+1 (787) 274-5252

María Isabel Rey Cancio  
[mrey@pmalaw.com](mailto:mrey@pmalaw.com)  
+1 (787) 274-5243

Héctor Santaella Santé  
[hsantaella@pmalaw.com](mailto:hsantaella@pmalaw.com)  
+1 (787) 274-5253

Marcia C. Laurido Soto  
[mlaurido@pmalaw.com](mailto:mlaurido@pmalaw.com)  
+1 (787) 274-5247

[www.pmalaw.com](http://www.pmalaw.com)