



Guidance to Registrants and Licensees with Respect To Emergency Powers (COVID 19) Regulations, 2020 (Chapter 34), Emergency Powers (COVID 19) (No. 1) Order, 2020

The Securities Commission of The Bahamas issues the following Guidance with regard to the Emergency Powers (COVID 19)(No. 1) Order, 2020 (the "Order").

Registrants and licensees should note that section 3(1) requires that, commencing 20 March 2020, "All establishments, institutions, businesses, offices, stores and organizations shall suspend operations to the general public ..."

Further, section 3(8) of the Order allows, subject to paragraph 3(1), that businesses "shall work from home and such establishments, institutions, businesses or offices shall maintain only essential staff for the performance of core functions while adhering at all times to social distancing ..."

Registrants and licensees are hereby advised that, per the Order, you are able to maintain operations and regular business hours; however, those operations and regular business hours shall be maintained within the parameters established by the Order. That is, registrants and licensees should not open to the general public and should only require essential staff to be on premises. Non-essential staff should be allowed to work from home. Registrants and licensees must also ensure that "social distancing" requirements are observed and maintained within their premises at all times.

As it now stands, the Order shall expire at 9:00 a.m. on 31 March 2020.