

STATE OF NEVADA



STEVE SISOLAK  
*Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS DIVISION

TERRY REYNOLDS  
*Director*

SANDY O'LAUGHLIN  
*Commissioner*

March 20, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak and related concerns pertaining to person-to-person or community spread of the virus, Governor Steve Sisolak is mandating, through an emergency directive, all non-essential businesses to close as a proactive measure to fight spread of the coronavirus. Only essential businesses shall remain open. This new mandatory emergency directive is effective midnight tonight until April 16, 2020, unless otherwise modified or withdrawn by Governor Sisolak.

Excerpt from the Governor's speech March 20, 2020:

"Previously, I asked non-essential businesses to close their doors to the public. I am no longer asking them to do that, I am directing all non-essential businesses to close. If you are NOT an essential business, I am using my power as Governor under an emergency declaration to order you to close." If your business is not essential to providing sustenance and for the everyday safety, health, and wellbeing of Nevadans, you must shut down..."

By signing the directive, I am granting local governments the authority they do not currently have to impose civil penalties—including fining and revoking licenses—of businesses that do not shut down...If businesses defy this directive and stay open, state AND local law enforcement will the ability to treat this as a criminal act after all other options have been exhausted."

In addition, effective March 17, 2020, the Las Vegas Justice Court suspended issuing Defaults on all civil actions, suspended issuing orders for the examination of a judgment debtor and suspended the issuance of any Writ of Execution. Any property garnished or attached after March 17, 2020, must be released back to the judgment debtor.

Based upon the above, a collection agency is deemed a non-essential business at this time. Accordingly, the Nevada Financial Institutions Division must enforce the Governor's mandatory emergency directive and direct all collection agencies holding a license under Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 649 and located in this State to close effective midnight tonight until April 16, 2020, unless otherwise modified or withdrawn by Governor Sisolak. All collection agencies holding a license or certificate under Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 649 and located out-of-state must cease collection efforts with Nevada consumers/residents effective midnight tonight until April 16, 2020, unless otherwise modified or withdrawn by Governor Sisolak.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Mary Young, written in a cursive style, positioned over a circular seal.

Mary Young  
Deputy Commissioner

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