

COVID-19 BUSINESS INFORMATION

- Governor Northam signed <u>Executive Order 53</u> on March 23rd, which, among other directives, causes the closure of all dining areas / congregation areas and limits the number of patrons within "non-essential" retail through April 23rd. Because numerous types of retail are NOT ordered closed, we encourage citizens and business owners to read Order 53 very carefully.
- The SBA has made available a <u>video</u> to help businesses navigate the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) application process. You can find the application <u>HERE</u>.
- Important business-related information from the Virginia Department of
 Emergency Management:
 - Register on the state Private Sector Portal to be added to the distribution list to receive future correspondence on the Commonwealth's actions: <u>https://bit.ly/VaPrivateSector</u>
 - Email <u>private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov</u> with emergency response questions. Clinical questions about Coronavirus can be directed to 877-ASK-VDH3.
- Hampton Roads Workforce Council Operations Status:
 - Currently, all Virginia Career Works Centers in Hampton Roads are closed to the public. However, staff is still manning the Centers and

continuing to stay in touch with its partners, employer customers and program participants via the telephone and internet communications. Council staff is also working closely with the Virginia Employment Commission staff in meeting the high demand for their services. They are working on a plan to strategically reopen the Centers as soon as possible, and staff is taking every possible measure to shift previously in-person services to remote services, and many resources can still be accessed over the phone, via email or online.

- The Business Services team is working with employers to assist with their needs as well. If you are a business owner, employer or HR representative who is considering work stoppages, layoffs or furloughs, we encourage you to contact the Business Services team. Also, if you know of a business that is actively hiring please pass that information along to <u>Steve Cook</u> at the workforce council so that they can repost on their social networks.
- For more info on the Hampton Roads Workforce Council, visit: <u>https://www.vcwhamptonroads.org/corona-virus-update/</u>

The Isle of Wight Economic Development Team