Coronavirus Laws and Your Dealership: Live Q&A

January 22, 2020

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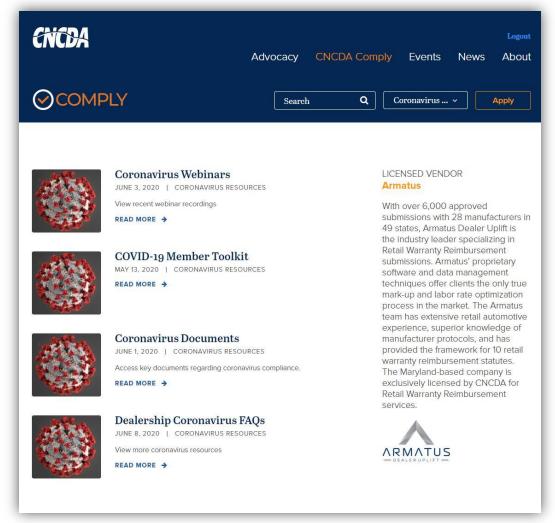


What are we covering today?

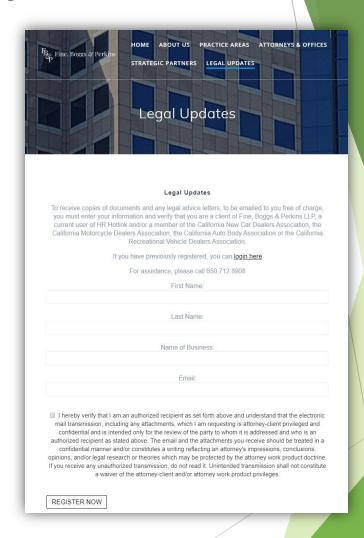
- Status of Dealership
 Operations
- 2. Frequently Asked Questions
- 3. Live Q&A



Free Online Resources for CNCDA Members



https://www.cncda.org/dealer-coronavirus-resources/



https://www.employerlawyers.com/legal-updates/

CNCDA COVID-19 Member Toolkit

- Contains many helpful resources on issues discussed in this webinar
- Available on CNCDA Comply
- Frequently Updated

MEMBER TOOLKIT



Restarting California's New Car Dealerships in the Wake of COVID-19

OVERVIEW

This CNCDA Member Toolkit is designed to help dealerships implement new protocols and procedures, ensuring the health and safety of consumers and employees, in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis. This document is not intended as legal advice, nor is it intended to be comprehensive regarding all COVID-19 compliance matters. Instead, this toolkit is designed as an informational checklist, which includes key resources for critical areas that dealerships need to be aware of as they reopen to the public and begin to resume day-to-day operations. Dealers should also note that while CNCDA intends to use its best efforts to update this document, COVID-19 compliance issues continue to change quickly. For legal advice, contact competent counsel.



Key Resources

- State of California Industry Guidance and Checklist on Auto Dealership COVID-19 Operations
- · Cal/OSHA Guidance on Requirements to Protect Workers from Coronavirus
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) <u>Interim Guidance for</u> Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to COVID-19

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- Designate someone at your dealership that is responsible for COVID-19 health and safety compliance.
- Purchase equipment necessary to comply with health requirements (e.g., face masks, touchless body thermometers, hand sanitizers, disinfectant wipes, etc.).

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COVID-12 CAMPAGE CHARACTER for Automobile Dealerships and Rental Employers

This checklist is intended to help autornobile dealerships and rental employers implement their plan to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace and is supplemental to for Automobile Dealers and Rental Employers. This checklist is a summary and corfor some parts of the guidance; familiarize yourself with the guidance before usin



Contents of Written Workplace Secific PS OF

- A risk assessment and the measures that will be taken to prevent spread of virus.
- Use of face coverings, in accordance with the
- Training and communication with workers and work plan.
- A process to check for compliance and to depend to depen
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Status of Dealership Operations



- Most California dealerships are now subject to the state's Regional Stay Home Order.
- The Regional Stay Home Order is triggered in a region when ICU availability falls below 15%. It is currently triggered in the following regions:
 - Southern California: Imperial, Inyo, Los Angeles, Mono, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura
 - San Joaquin Valley: Calaveras, Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, San Benito, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare, Tuolumne
 - Bay Area: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma
- Greater Sacramento existed the Regional Stay Home Order on January 12. Most counties currently in somewhat less restrictive Purple Tier.

Regional Stay Home Order Restrictions

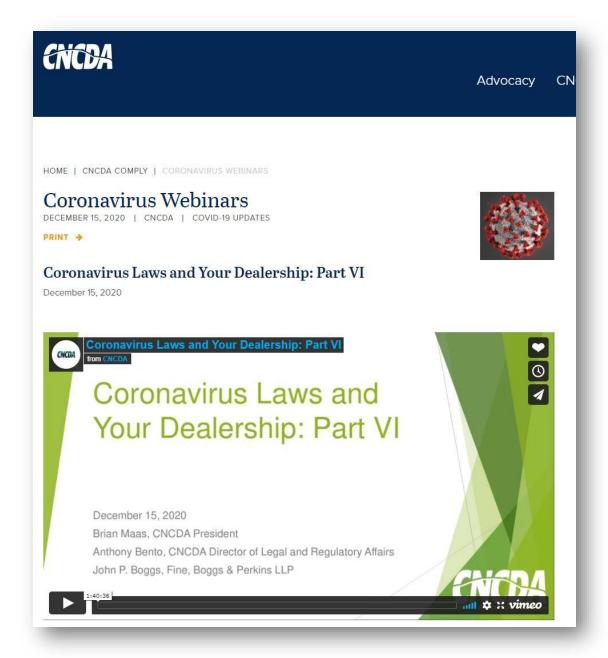
- Allows "critical infrastructure sector" businesses (such as dealerships) to continue to operate, subject to various requirements.
 - Dealerships must observe the COVID-19 Industry Guidance and Checklist (discussed in December 2020 webinar)
- Regional Stay Home Order imposes stringent restrictions on retail businesses:
 - Indoor operations limited to 20% capacity.
 - ▶ When calculating capacity limits, staff is generally <u>not</u> included.
 - Exception: Santa Clara County (staff included)
 - ▶ Bottom line: capacity limitations must be imposed to maximize social distancing.
 - Customer access to indoor spaces "must be strictly metered" to ensure compliance.
 - ▶ The sale of food, beverages, and alcohol for in-store consumption is prohibited.
 - ▶ Does <u>not</u> prohibit customers from purchasing food and consuming it outside.
 - ▶ Does <u>not</u> prohibit employees from bringing their own food to work to eat.
- CNCDA recommends that dealers observe the retail business requirements for their retail operations (vehicle and parts sales)

Always Enforce the Basics!

- Businesses are increasingly being penalized by fire marshals, health inspectors, and other local officials for non-compliance with health requirements.
- Enforcement may involve warnings, monetary fines, and/or an order to temporarily shut down a business.
- By far, the biggest reason why business are being penalized are noncompliance with face covering requirements and overcrowding.
- ► The proper use of face coverings and social distancing must be enforced on an ongoing basis. Compliance with these requirements are the most visible example of how serious your dealership is adhering to health requirements.

Prior Webinar Recordings Available

- Prior webinar recordings available on CNCDA Comply.
- The December 15, 2020 webinar provides an overview of requirements applicable to California dealerships. (Still mostly current)
- CNCDA members can view at: https://www.cncda.org/publication s/coronavirus-webinars/





Common Questions – Employee Leave

- ▶ I heard the FFCRA expired; should I continue to pay my employees that are on leave due to contracting COVID-19 or close contact to a person that has COVID-19?
 - ▶ Unless you can demonstrate that exposure was not workplace related, you should continue to pay them while they are quarantining due to exposure or isolation.
 - Best practice: Pay all employees if they qualify for FFCRA paid sick leave (tax credit available through March 31).
 - Note: Law may change in near future. Biden Administration is proposing modifying and reinstating the FFCRA mandate and extending it through September 2021.
 - Note: Some local jurisdictions are imposing paid sick leave requirements akin to FFCRA. (e.g., Oakland)

Common Questions – Employee Leave

- Should I require that employees quarantine after interstate travel?
 - The state *recommends* (but does not require) a 10-day quarantine period after non-essential interstate travel. If an employee elects to quarantine, they should be provided with leave and FFCRA tax credits could reimburse dealers for providing compensation during the leave period.
 - Major local jurisdiction exceptions:
 - Los Angeles County (quarantine required after non-essential travel outside Southern California Region)
 - Santa Clara County (quarantine required after non-essential travel of more than 150 miles from County borders)

Common Questions – Operations

- ▶ Do I need to shut down employee break rooms?
 - Not under the statewide guidance. However, some local jurisdictions require break rooms to be closed (e.g., Santa Clara County). Also, social distancing and the use of face coverings must be strictly enforced in the break rooms. Consider reconfiguring your break room to enforce distancing and stagger lunch breaks to minimize high traffic. Closing a break room is preferable to allowing employees to congregate in a manner that violates social distancing.

Common Questions – Operations

- ▶ Do I need to shut down vending machines?
 - ▶ If your dealership is subject to the Regional Stay Home Order, shutting down vending machines is strongly encouraged, as retailers are prohibited from selling food or drinks for in-store consumption. If your dealership is not subject to the Regional Stay Home Order, frequently touched areas of vending machines should be regularly cleaned, and customers should be encouraged to eat outside.

Common Questions – Returning to Work

- ► How long should employees quarantine? 10 or 14 days?
 - ► A 10-day quarantine period is now recommended for employees with no COVID-19 symptoms that are quarantining due to "close contact" with an infected individual.
 - ► Employees that contract COVID-19 and are symptomatic may return to work after at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared <u>and</u> at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication <u>and</u> other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving.
 - ▶ If a person tests positive, but has no symptoms, they can return after 10 days from the date of the positive test.

Common Questions – Returning to Work

- May I require negative tests for employees before they can return to work?
 - ► No. Cal/OSHA regulations specifically prohibit the use of negative tests in this manner.
 - ▶ Why? People can test positive for COVID-19 weeks after they are no longer contagious or symptomatic.



Thank you!

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