CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19): WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

A new coronavirus, COVID-19, is causing an outbreak of respiratory illness that began in the city of Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. Since the outbreak began in early December 2019, it has spread around the globe and has had an increasing impact on businesses. Baker Donelson attorneys and advisors continue to monitor the outbreak and provide legal guidance for our clients' businesses. This site is being continuously updated to reflect the most current and relevant information, so please check the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Updates below for the latest articles and information about the outbreak.

Additionally, Baker Donelson has expanded its multi-disciplinary task force focused on providing essential counsel to clients navigating the growing impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

This team, which in January began monitoring the impact of the coronavirus outbreak on global supply chains and employees overseas, now brings together leading professionals across multiple Baker Donelson practice groups with a range of experience in the many operational, legal, regulatory and governmental issues that will be vital to ensuring businesses implement a comprehensive approach to preparing for and responding to the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak.

The Baker Donelson Coronavirus Task Force is led by John M. Scannapieco, chair of Baker Donelson's Global Business Team; Martha L. Boyd, shareholder in the Firm's Labor & Employment Group; and Alisa L. Chestler, chair of the Firm's Data Protection, Privacy and Cybersecurity Team. In addition to other Firm leaders across multiple practices, including health care, construction, government contracts, and hospitality, members of the task force include the former first General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security; a former Chief of Staff to the U.S. Senate Majority Leader; a former staff director of the U.S. House Appropriations Committee; former Chief Counsel and former Acting Director of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services; and a former senior level member of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

Baker Donelson Coronavirus Task Force

Download a printable PDF of Task Force members.
Cruise Industry

Robert M. Kritzman
954.768.1621
rkritzman@bakerdonelson.com

DHS, Law Enforcement & Regulation

Joe D. Whitley
404.223.2209
jwhitley@bakerdonelson.com

Education Industry

Melissa M. Grand
225.381.7055
mgrand@bakerdonelson.com

Emergency Declarations/FEMA

Ernest B. Abbott
202.508.3425
eabbott@bakerdonelson.com

Wendy Huff Ellard
601.969.4681
wellard@bakerdonelson.com
Financial Disclosures and SEC-Related Guidance

Lori B. Metrock
615.726.5768
lmetrock@bakerdonelson.com

Financial Institutions

Kristine L. Roberts
901.577.8136
klroberts@bakerdonelson.com

Health Care Providers and Facilities

Stuart F. Miller
713.210.7447
stuartmiller@bakerdonelson.com

Health Care Regulatory

Kristin C. Carter
410.862.1109
kcarte@bakerdonelson.com

Julie E. Kass
410.862.1114
jkass@bakerdonelson.com

HHS Grants for Construction and Upgrades

Sheila P. Burke
202.508.3457
sburke@bakerdonelson.com

Darwin A. Hindman III
HHS Spending Package and Appropriations

James W. Dyer
202.508.3416
jdyer@bakerdonelson.com

HIPAA, Data Protection and Cybersecurity Controls for Remote Workforce

Alisa L. Chestler, CIPP/US
615.726.5589
achestler@bakerdonelson.com

Hospitality Industry

Joel R. Buckberg
615.726.5639
jbuckberg@bakerdonelson.com

Sara M. Turner
205.250.8316
smtturner@bakerdonelson.com
Immigration

Robert C. Divine
423.752.4416
rdivine@bakerdonelson.com

Insurance Coverage, including Business Interruption

Mark A. Barber
404.443.6713
mbarber@bakerdonelson.com

Steven F. Griffith Jr.
504.566.5225
sgriffith@bakerdonelson.com

L&E, including Business Travel

Martha L. Boyd
615.726.5652
mboyd@bakerdonelson.com

Long Term Care

Howard L. Sollins
410.862.1101
hsollins@bakerdonelson.com

Real Estate – Commercial and Industrial Property

Matthew T. Harris
615.726.5759
mharris@bakerdonelson.com

Christian Schuetz
March 18

Defense Production Act is Invoked by President Trump
On March 18, 2020, President Donald Trump announced his invocation of the Defense Production Act (DPA), which authorizes the President to direct industries to produce critical equipment. The Trump Administration has not yet provided details as of the time of this alert on how the DPA will be
applied specifically within the context of COVID-19, but it was invoked presumably to address shortfalls in health care supplies in the face of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Read More

- **Coronavirus: Privacy and Cybersecurity Considerations for Financial Institutions**
  Financial institutions are continuing to address the immense business impact of coronavirus (COVID-19). The Federal Financial Institutions Examinations Counsel (FFIEC) has issued its updated guidance on pandemic planning and regulators have encouraged financial institutions to work with customers affected by COVID-19. However, special attention must be paid to privacy and cybersecurity implications as financial institutions refine business continuity plans. The following is a brief overview of some of the key privacy and cybersecurity issues financial institutions should be considering in managing the increased risk created by COVID-19. Read More

- **Coronavirus: Expanded Coverage of Medicare Telehealth Services During Pandemic**
  The Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, which was enacted on March 6, 2020, allows the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to waive certain restrictions on Medicare coverage for telehealth services. On March 17, 2020, the Secretary issued waivers that will apply retroactively from March 6, 2020 until the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency. The new expanded coverage allows beneficiaries to receive telehealth services without having to travel to a health care facility. Read More

- **Coronavirus: Construction Industry Impacts**
  In early March, COVID-19 seemed like a distant threat, but we are now all too well aware of its rapid intercontinental spread. In the less than three months since the first case out of Wuhan, China was reported to the World Health Organization (WHO) on December 31, 2019, COVID-19 has spread to every continent, except Antarctica, and has been declared a pandemic and national, state, and local emergency. To date, more than 205,000 cases have been reported worldwide, with approximately 6,500 of those in the United States. Concerns about COVID-19 have impacted multiple facets of our day-to-day lives, from business and school closings and restrictions on travel and public gatherings, to stock market volatility. Read More

- **Coronavirus: Temporary Child Care Solutions Could be Subject to Extensive State Regulations**
  The ultimate impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) cannot be predicted at this time; however, the disruption of commerce and family life has commenced in the United States. The sudden lack of reliable child care providers such as grandparents and daycare facilities has thrown carefully orchestrated family plans out the window. While the federal government has taken financial action such as making low-interest loans available to small businesses affected by the pandemic, it has yet to provide a solution for child care as schools and daycare facilities close their doors across the nation. There is no national mandate or consensus on daycare facility closures. For example, in Georgia, Governor Brian Kemp has suggested daycare facilities close if they feel it is prudent, but has not mandated closure. News reports have noted that in Ohio, Governor Mike DeWine plans to eventually close all daycare facilities in the state. Kentucky's governor, Andrew Beshear, has alerted residents that all daycare centers in the state must close on Friday, March 20. Read More

- **Insights from First Securities Fraud Class Action Suit Against a Drug Manufacturer**
  Developing a COVID-19 Vaccine
The claims made in *McDermid, et al. v. Inovio Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*, et al., No. 2:20-cv-01402-GJP (E.D. Pa., filed March 12, 2020), a securities fraud class action, illustrate why publicly traded companies, and particularly drug manufacturers, must exercise great care when publicizing their activities, as their statements may be used against them by investors seeking damages who contend they were misled into buying stock. McDermid, who invested in Inovio Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Inovio), now seeks to represent a class of investors who bought or acquired Inovio common stock (NASDAQ: INO) between February 14, 2020, and March 9, 2020, at purportedly artificially inflated prices that resulted from public statements made on behalf of Inovio. He names Inovio and its CEO as defendants, claiming they are liable for having made false and misleading statements in violation of Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and SEC Rule 10b-5. While McDermid is making his claims through private litigation, claims of this nature often spawn investigations by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and can lead to parallel administrative, civil, and even criminal proceedings, along with significant fines, penalties, and restitution orders.

Read More

- **Online Security Tips for Working from Home**
  Read the Federal Trade Commission's blog posting on this important topic, that businesses should be on top of, for all those working remotely.

- **EEOC Guidance on Taking an Employee's Temperature**
  The EEOC has issued new guidance in response to the COVID-19 pandemic that specifically authorizes employers to take employees' temperatures. In normal circumstances, temperature checks are considered to be a prohibited medical examination under the Americans with Disabilities Act. The EEOC's new guidance unties employers' hands as they try to monitor their employees for signs of illness, particularly one of the most frequent signs of the illness – a fever of at least 100.4 degrees.

**March 17**

- **Coronavirus: Nationwide Emergency Declaration – Access to Disaster Relief Fund**
  On Friday, March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump declared a nationwide emergency under the Stafford Act. This unprecedented action allows Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide funding to state and local governments and eligible non-profit entities in response to the outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19). These entities, including non-profit hospitals, clinics, and nursing homes (among others), may receive Disaster Relief Funds appropriated by Congress to reimburse the cost of emergency measures to protect the public health and safety. Congress will enact, and the President will direct, additional measures within the next week. This article provides a summary of what we know to date as to what the emergency declaration means for eligible entities.
  Read More

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  Read More
Supplemental Coronavirus Legislation H.R. 6201 - Families First Coronavirus Response Act

On March 14, 2020, the House passed H.R. 6201, known as the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. An issue arose regarding a needed "technical amendment" that required further action by the House. That work was completed last night, and the bill was finally sent to the Senate. Today the Senate Majority Leader announced the Senate would stay in session to consider the House passed Second Stimulus. It is expected the Senate will pass the House bill as is and initiate work on a far broader and more comprehensive stimulus.

Read More

Coronavirus: HHS Announces Limited Waivers of HIPAA Penalties and Sanctions

On March 16 and 17, the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office for Civil Rights (OCR) announced limited waivers of penalties and sanctions with respect to certain HIPAA requirements due to the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak. The waivers provide some relief to hospitals with respect to certain aspects of the Privacy Rule and to all health care providers seeking to provide telehealth services.

Read More

Coronavirus: Impact on Moving People and Immigration

As governments around the world react with increasing vigor to flatten coronavirus curves, employers must urgently re-evaluate travel plans and immigration maintenance. While the absolute number of infections and deaths worldwide so far appears less than those imposed by other influenzas, government policymakers are anticipating the prospect of quickly spiraling real numbers of very sick people overwhelming medical capabilities with drastic scenarios they desperately want to avoid. This is leading governments to impose limitations on travel and services, especially internationally, that are unprecedented in modern times.

Read More

Coronavirus: Implications for Business Interruption Insurance Coverage

Bars and restaurants are closing. Airline travel is discouraged. Supply chains are interrupted. Hotels and motels are empty. Because of its impact on every segment of the economy, the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic undoubtedly will spawn coverage disputes and litigation over the availability of insurance coverage for resulting economic loss. With regard to business interruption coverage, two issues likely will be front and center.

Read More

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) through their Cybersecurity Insights blog posted about "Preventing Eavesdropping and Protecting Privacy on Virtual Meetings". They provide us a great reminder, during this time of increased remote work, to become more security-conscious in our online interactions.


March 16

Coronavirus: Regulators Encourage Banks to "Work with Customers"

Both the FDIC and the OCC issued letters on Friday responding to bankers' requests to acknowledge that the regulators will provide some leniency to banks as they work with their customers in addressing the potential business impact of COVID-19 (coronavirus). More specifically, the regulators are encouraging financial institutions to take prudent steps to assist customers and communities affected. They recognize that efforts to work with customers and communities affected by the coronavirus can be consistent with safe and sound banking practices and in the public interest.
Coronavirus: Impact on Office, Retail and Industrial Leases
The intensity with which the COVID-19 outbreak and the response to it has escalated continues to impact both landlords and tenants under commercial leases. It is safe to say that landlords and tenants will be viewing certain routine boilerplate language in leases differently in the future. Right now though, the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on businesses and business operations is raising uncertainty under commercial leases about issues best addressed with proactive assessment from tenants and landlords regarding their lease obligations, with a particular eye toward the following lease provisions.
Read More

House Passes Coronavirus Bill with Immediate Impact on Employers Upon Enactment
On March 14, 2020, the House passed H.R. 6201 known as the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (the Act). While there are reported talks about potential "technical corrections" to the Act that may warrant a second vote by the House, it is anticipated that any such changes will be addressed and that the Act will be considered by the Senate and possibly signed into law soon. The current version of the legislation provides paid leave, establishes free testing for the coronavirus, protects public health workers, and provides benefits to children and families. Employers should watch the Act closely because the provisions contained therein, including three key provisions relating to the workplace, would take effect immediately upon enactment. This alert will provide a brief overview of the current version of these key provisions.
Read More

March 15

The UK Government has updated its foreign travel advice with respect to travel to the United States by UK citizens. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office advises against all but essential travel to the United States due to the travel restrictions imposed by the United States that will go into effect at midnight on March 17 in response to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). A link to the full advisory and other information to assist UK citizens traveling to the United States, including services that are offered, may be found here: https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/usa

March 14

Health Care Providers: President's Emergency Declaration Paves Way for Additional Regulatory Flexibility
With the emergency declaration under the National Emergencies Act related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) on March 13, 2020, President Trump paved the way for CMS to temporarily waive certain Medicare, Medicaid, and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) requirements. The President's declaration is intended to provide much needed regulatory relief to our nation's hospitals and other care providers who treat government program beneficiaries. These actions are authorized under Section 1135 of the Social Security Act, which allows the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to temporarily waive or modify certain requirements to ensure that sufficient health care items and services are available to meet the needs of government program beneficiaries (Section 1135 Waivers).
Read More

March 13

CMS and CDC Guidance for Addressing Coronavirus Risk in Long Term Care: Practical Considerations for Implementation
As new confirmed COVID-19 cases emerge daily in the United States and countries around the world, the various federal agencies tasked with overseeing health care have issued a steady stream of
guidance that aims to assist health care providers in managing risks related to the outbreak. Increasingly, the available evidence shows that the elderly are among those most likely to be affected by severe forms of the disease. Thus, providers that serve this vulnerable population – including, most particularly, nursing facilities, but also including assisted living facilities and home-based providers – are well-advised to ensure that they are taking all necessary and appropriate steps to protect their residents and patients.

Read More

- **The Coronavirus Challenge: What Hospitality Businesses Should Consider Doing Now**
  As the novel coronavirus continues to spread, the landscape is constantly changing. New information is coming to light faster than it can be internalized and the economy, at the moment, is in constant flux. To date, the hospitality industry has borne the brunt of this upheaval. In these trying circumstances, it is important for hotels, restaurants, transportation servicers and travel companies to focus on implementing sensible policies to limit not only the spread of the virus, but also mitigate the risk of any potential legal liability.
  Read More

- **Coronavirus: What Multi-Family Housing Complexes Need to Do Now**
  If you own or operate a multi-family housing complex, addressing the rapidly spreading COVID-19 virus is crucial. Baker Donelson is staying up-to-date on the latest advice for the sector from the CDC and national housing groups and we have highlighted the following actions for our multi-family clients. Avoid "failure to prepare" liability by acting now!
  Read More

- **Coronavirus: Small Business Administration to Make Economic Injury Disaster Loans Available in Response to Pandemic**
  Although the ultimate impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) cannot be predicted, the pandemic has and will continue to affect commerce in the United States as well as abroad. Disruptions to the supply chain for imported goods, diminished customer demand and increased costs for operation are all affecting businesses in the United States. Among the hardest hit will be small businesses which have the least cushion for absorbing the economic consequences of the pandemic.
  Read More

March 11

- **Coronavirus: Implications of an Emergency Declaration**
  As the situation continues to unfold, the outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in the United States is prompting increased federal and state action. There is much confusion regarding the implications of an emergency declaration and the significance of individual state emergency declarations. This article provides a summary of the current landscape and general recommendations that affected entities should consider in the event they may be eligible for federal or state reimbursement funding for costs incurred related to this outbreak.
  Read More

- **Coronavirus: Key Aspects of $8.3 Billion Spending Package**
  The Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act was signed by the President on March 6 and provides $8.3 billion in multi-year funds to combat the growing public health threat. The Act funds a comprehensive response to COVID-19, which includes funding for federal, international, and local preparedness and response capabilities.
  Read More

- **Coronavirus: New Guidance for Medicare Advantage and Part D Plans**
  On Monday, March 9, 2020, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) released information on permissible flexibilities and obligations that are in effect during a disaster and emergency resulting from COVID-19.
  Read More
March 10

- Coronavirus: What K-12 Schools Should Do Now
  The outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in the United States is prompting leaders to shut down schools from Washington State to New York City after parents or students tested positive for the virus. Many schools in all parts of the country are watching information on the spread of the coronavirus closely to determine how to navigate this evolving situation. This article provides action items for schools to think through and implement now.
  Read More

March 9

- Coronavirus and Financial Institutions Preparedness: What Banks Should Do Now
  All financial institutions should regularly review and update their business continuity plans (BCPs), but with the increased possibility of business disruption caused by the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), financial institutions should ensure adequate pandemic planning is in place as a supplement to a BCP.
  Read More

March 5

  Join Baker Donelson for a complimentary webinar on March 11 to learn about how you can safeguard your business from the impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.
  Register Here

March 3

- Don't Forget About Cyber Hygiene During Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak
  As organizations prepare for certain contingency work arrangements in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, companies must also focus attention on ensuring appropriate cyber hygiene. Companies are anticipating more individuals working remotely from the safety of their own homes to avoid contracting the virus and other companies are planning for potential quarantines and school closings. The flexibility of working remotely, however, involves real cybersecurity risks that companies should be aware of and work to mitigate in the face of the COVID-19 outbreak. With increased remote work, there is increased risk of employees accessing data through unsecured and unsafe Wi-Fi networks, using personal devices to perform work, and not following general security protocols established by the company. As individuals are approved or otherwise authorized to work remotely, there must be a multi-departmental focus on maintaining proper controls. Management should be coordinating with the Human Resources (HR) and Information Technology (IT) departments to establish security controls and ensure employees are properly trained on those controls in the remote work context.
  Read More

February 28

- Legal Implications of the Impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) on Business in Italy, including labor and employment, privacy, commercial contracts, and other business transactions provided by Rodl & Partner Italy.
  Read More. For updated information click here: https://www.roedl.com/insights/.

February 25

- UPDATE – New CDC Travel Restrictions for South Korea, Italy and Japan
  Recently, the CDC raised its travel advisory for travel to South Korea to Level 3, its highest level, recommending that travelers avoid all nonessential travel to South Korea. The CDC also raised its travel advisory for travel to Italy and to Japan to a Level 2. Under a Level 2 advisory, the CDC has
confirmed that both Italy and Japan are experiencing sustained community spread of the COVID-19 virus. As a result, the CDC recommends that high risk travelers (i.e., elderly, immunocompromised, or pregnant) should consider postponing nonessential travel. Others should take special precautions when traveling to these countries, including avoiding contact with sick people and exercising good hygiene practices (washing hands frequently and avoiding touching your face/eyes with your hands). The CDC also has noted that other countries in Southeast Asia, including Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam, also are experiencing "apparent community spread" of the virus. However, because the virus spread is not sustained or widespread enough, the CDC has not issued a travel notice yet.

**February 24**

- **UPDATED Factory Reopening Schedule**
  The Hubei provincial government announced late last week that the date for businesses to reopen throughout the province has been pushed back until March 11 (originally February 21). While most provinces have allowed businesses to reopen, some are still struggling to return to 100% capacity due to difficulties in obtaining raw materials and components due to issues with their upstream suppliers returning to full capacity and some employees from Hubei are unable to return to work due to continuing travel restrictions. The closer the factory to Hubei, the more likely it is experiencing extended downtime and delays in returning to full capacity. We recommend that you communicate with your suppliers to determine capacity and ability to comply with contractual obligations, including quantity and time for delivery. Be prepared to compromise in the short term in order to receive some, if not all, of your orders in a reasonably timely manner. The virus outbreak has pushed many Chinese companies, already suffering from the US/China trade war, to the breaking point. Therefore, take the time to verify that your supplier can perform before sending payment/deposits.

**February 20**

- **Handling Packages and Raw Materials from China**
  A recent article published by a major news outlet suggests that the COVID-19 virus may live on certain untreated surfaces for many days. This has prompted questions regarding the safety of handling products and raw materials arriving from China now that factories and companies are returning to work.

An expert health care professional with whom we have consulted on the medical aspects of the COVID-19 outbreak indicated that the article we cited references data for SARS and MERS – not the novel coronavirus causing COVID-19. She also instructed us to be very cautious in how we apply data from these other viruses to this current situation, as these are unique pathogens with their own characteristics. In addition, she indicated that an article identified within the news story specifically provides that "data on the transmissibility of coronaviruses from contaminated surfaces to hands were not found". The health care professional also indicated that to her knowledge, there is currently no evidence that spread of the virus from surfaces/objects to humans is a driver of the ongoing epidemic in China.

The Center for Disease Control FAQ page also includes helpful information:

Q: Am I at risk for COVID-19 from a package or products shipping from China?

A: There is still a lot that is unknown about the newly emerged COVID-19 and how it spreads. Two other coronaviruses have emerged previously to cause severe illness in people (MERS-CoV and SARS-CoV). The virus that causes COVID-19 is more genetically related to SARS-CoV than MERS-CoV, but both are betacoronaviruses with their origins in bats. While we don’t know for sure that this virus will behave the same way as SARS-CoV and MERS-CoV, we can use the information gained from both of these earlier coronaviruses to guide us. In general, because of poor survivability of these coronaviruses on surfaces, there is likely very low risk of spread from products or packaging that are shipped over a period of days or weeks at ambient temperatures. Coronaviruses are generally thought to be spread most often by respiratory droplets. Currently there is no evidence to support transmission of COVID-19 associated with
imported goods and there have not been any cases of COVID-19 in the United States associated with imported goods. Information will be provided on the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) website as it becomes available.

If you have medical questions related to COVID-19, the CDC FAQ page is an excellent resource for current health related information regarding the COVID-19 virus and should help dispel many of the myths that tend to be propagated during times of outbreak.

With that in mind, we reiterate the importance of continuing to educate your employees by providing them with correct, updated information regarding the COVID-19 outbreak. If any of your employees continue to express concerns regarding handling products or raw materials arriving from China, consider offering them gloves and encouraging them to wash their hands after handling products and before touching their eyes and noses. If the employees expressing concerns are immunocompromised or pregnant, you could try to find other work for them to do on a temporary basis, or allow them to take an unpaid leave of absence until this situation resolves. There is no legal requirement for doing so at this juncture (and you would never want to force an employee in this situation to take leave), but this may be a better for your business than having an employee in this situation disrupting operations or unduly stressed by the fear of contracting the illness, unfounded as that fear may be.

February 19

- An online tracker developed by Johns Hopkins University delivers information and tracks cases of COVID-19 in real-time. The tracker pulls data from a variety of sources, including the WHO, CDC and China’s National Health Commission

February 17

- **Verify that China Business has Reopened and is Operating at Full Capacity**
  Most provinces in China have allowed companies to reopen since the Lunar New Year holiday. The city of Wenzhou in Zhejiang Province will permit businesses to reopen beginning February 17, 2020. Beijing, Hainan, and Sichuan Province are permitting companies to have flexibility concerning when to reopen. The port city of Tianjin has not announced a date when companies will be permitted to reopen. Hubei Province has announced that businesses will be able to reopen on February 21, 2020. However, we believe this date is fluid and should be confirmed closer to February 21. It also is important to note that there are still a number of regional travel restrictions in place that will prevent some number of employees from returning to work. In addition, companies may be required to satisfy certain requirements/obtain approvals from provincial and/or local governments and landlords before they are allowed to reopen. Also, many companies have run short of raw materials/components as a result of the extended holiday. Due to the sheer number of companies trying to reopen, missing employees, and a lack of raw materials/components, your supplier or customer may not be able to reopen or return to full capacity for several weeks after the date announced by the government. Due to this lag in obtaining approval to reopen and the economic hardships experienced by companies as a result of the virus, we are hearing about an increase in fraud by suppliers claiming that they are open and requesting deposits for orders when, in fact, the suppliers remain closed or have shut down permanently. As we have said many times before, "trust but verify" before sending deposits to your suppliers.

- **Update on Ocean Cargo Delivery from China**
  While cargo is beginning to move again from China, delivery times are being impacted. Due to a major decrease in demand for shipping (because China factories are slow to return to business), ocean carriers are removing vessels out of rotation or diverting vessels from Southern China to other ports located in Southeast Asia. Verify shipping times in advance and modify your supply agreements accordingly.

February 16
• **Application of Force Majeure and COVID-19 (novel coronavirus)**

Expect claims to excuse performance by your Chinese supplier or customer under the force majeure provision of your contracts. The China Council for the Promotion of International Trade has established an application process by which a Chinese party may obtain a force majeure certificate. While persuasive, the certificate, alone, is not sufficient to excuse performance. The supplier or customer must still demonstrate that the facts of the particular case warrant application of force majeure under applicable governing law or applicable contract. If your contract is governed by Chinese law or must be adjudicated in China, overriding state interest it is unlikely that a Chinese court or arbitrator will sanction a Chinese supplier or customer that is unable to perform in accordance with the terms of any contract. Even if your contract is governed by non-Chinese law or may be adjudicated outside of China, it also is unlikely that any judgment against a Chinese supplier or customer will be enforced in China under the current circumstances. In the short term, you should consider reaching some sort of settlement of the dispute and/or find alternative sources of supply outside of China.

• **Cybersecurity Attacks using COVID-19 to steal data are on the increase**

Attackers are exploiting the COVID-19 outbreak by sending malicious e-mails aimed at various groups, including businesses located in geographic areas impacted by the virus and industries that may be impacted by shipping disruptions. Based on recent reports, the attack includes a malicious Microsoft Word document that exploits an old vulnerability and installs AZORult, an information stealing malware. Security experts are advising that recipients of COVID-19 related e-mails treat such e-mails with extreme caution before opening the e-mails or attachments.

• **Current Travel Restrictions Between China and U.S.**

Effective February 5, 2020, President Trump signed an executive order suspending entry into the US of all foreign nationals who have visited China at any time during the 14 days prior to arrival in the US, except immediate family members of US citizens. In addition, all US citizens entering the US after visiting Hubei Province in China at any time during the 14 days prior to their arrival in the US are subject to a mandatory quarantine of up to two weeks.