



To: Wisconsin REALTORS®

From: Michael Theo, President & CEO

Date: March 24, 2020

Re: COVID-19 and Gov. Evers' "Safer at Home" Order

Today, Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers issued Emergency Order #12, ("Safer at Home" order). The order directs all individuals in Wisconsin to stay at home to help stop the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus). The order is in effect as of Wednesday, March 25 at 8:00 a.m. through Friday, April 24 at 8:00 a.m.

Under the order, all businesses and operations generally are required to cease activities at facilities within Wisconsin unless the business is considered an "Essential Business or Operation" under Section 13 of the order. The order defines "essential businesses" to include:

- Real estate services, including appraisal, home inspection and title services (Section 13u).
- Building trades, including carpentry, electrical, HVAC, plumbing, moving and relocation services, etc. (Section 13n).
- Lenders (Section 13l).
- Property management (13n) (Note: Landlords and rental property managers must avoid entering leased residential premises unless emergency maintenance is required).

Moreover, Section 15 of the order allows those identified as "essential businesses" to travel for work and customers and clients to travel in order to access those essential businesses.

REALTORS® and their clients may still conduct the activities necessary to buy and sell real estate in Wisconsin during the time period covered by the order as long as they comply with the social distancing and other requirements in the order.

The memo is not a legal document. The memo is intended to be an informational resource for you, your clients and others you may encounter while the order remains in effect.

If you have questions, please contact the WRA Legal Hotline at 1-800-799-4468. The hotline is available to members of the WRA, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.