

March 26, 2020

To Whom it May Concern:

Texas State Optical (“TSO”) has been “Caring for the Eyes of Texas” since 1936. TSO optometrists and their staff provide essential eye care services to the public, including eye exams, testing and evaluating the health of patients’ eyes, and providing eye wear products needed for patients to see better.

The Department of Homeland Security’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA) has identified Critical Infrastructure Workers as part of its response to COVID-19.¹ Presidential Policy Directive 21 identifies Healthcare and Public Health as a critical sector. The memorandum issued by the DHS/CISA on March 19, 2020² provides guidance for companies and workers in these critical sectors and states:

“If you work in a critical infrastructure industry, as defined by the Department of Homeland Security, you have a special responsibility to maintain your normal work schedule.”

Various local shelter-in-place orders exclude such critical infrastructure sectors as “Essential Businesses” needed to maintain the services and functions Americans depend on daily.

As an owner of an Essential Business and an employer of critical infrastructure workers, I respectfully request that the employee bearing this letter be allowed to proceed to or from his/her place of employment.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [PHONE NUMBER].

Sincerely,

[NAME], O.D.

¹ <https://www.cisa.gov/identifying-critical-infrastructure-during-covid-19>

² <https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/CISA-Guidance-on-Essential-Critical-Infrastructure-Workers-1-20-508c.pdf>