



April 1, 2020

Greetings Fellow Members of the Delaware Construction Community,

As a nation and state we are facing challenges that have not been seen for generations. But as with every challenge America has faced before, we will rise to meet it through our joint effort and ingenuity.

The construction industry has been determined by Governor Carney to be an essential business. The US Homeland Security Agency has provided guidance to states to recognize construction as an essential business as well. As an essential business, we carry a higher burden of responsibility than the general public that we can only meet collectively. A burden we can meet only with extraordinary action and discipline.

As Governor Carney travels the state, he is vigilant in observing working crews behavior on job sites. He has contacted each of us to inform us of his dismay at seeing the occasional crew not observing safety protocols, in particular workers not observing the recommended six feet of separation.

We all know how hard it is to change a lifetime of behavior and common practice. Finding creative ways that meet the established safety protocols to get the task done is our new challenge.

In other regions of the country, news media have taken pictures of and reported on crews not observing safety protocols. Public policy makers have been put in a position to respond to the lack of action on the part of their region's construction industry by constricting its ability to work.

To protect your jobs, your families, and your communities all safety protocols for COVID-19 must be reinforced and observed daily. Immediate action must be taken to correct behavior that does not adhere to the six feet of spacing recommendation. The number one job of the onsite supervisor is to ensure their crew is following the rules.

In this moment, we must be our brother's keeper. Reinforce the CDC and OSHA safety protocols and inspect your crews for compliance. Immediately and seriously correct any behavior that violates the safety protocols. While you are inspecting your job sites, please note the conduct of other members of the construction community on their job sites as well. If you see practices or behavior that does not comply with established protocols, please contact the company on the job site. If you are uncomfortable doing that, let one of our organizations know and we will make every effort to contact the company.

Delaware is counting on the construction industry to keep people working but we can only do that if we do our work safely. We can do this, but we can only do it together.

Regards,

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