



ABC Legislative Office
800 North Third Street, Suite 407
Harrisburg, PA 17102
abcpa.org

April 21, 2020

The Honorable Tom Wolf
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Gov. Wolf:

On behalf of the Associated Builders and Contractors of Pennsylvania (ABC Pennsylvania), thank you for the opportunity to provide our input on re-opening the commercial construction industry.

We are encouraged that public and private construction will be permitted to resume on Friday, May 8. ABC Pennsylvania has been supportive of state and federal guidelines to prevent the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). In order to assist our members that may need resources, ABC Pennsylvania created a COVID-19 Construction Safety Task Force to provide guidance, best practices, and standards for the construction industry to incorporate into their safety plans. The task force participants include experienced safety experts across all five ABC Pennsylvania chapters who have generously shared their collective resources aimed to protect employees and jobsites from COVID-19.

As you prepare construction industry guidance, we encourage you to review the enclosed document entitled, *Keeping Workers Safe: Guidelines for the Construction Industry to Address Worker Health and Jobsite Safety in Response to COVID-19*, as it provides details of industry standards.

Many of our members are eager to resume work, but before commercial construction projects can restart, we fully recognize the obligation contractors and specialty contractors have in protecting their employees and the public from COVID-19. In general:

1. Contractors and specialty contractors should create a health and safety plan that adheres to COVID-19 social distancing, mitigation, and cleaning protocols, as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
2. Contractors and specialty contractors should post – at each job site – their COVID-19 control, mitigation, and safety plan.
3. Commercial construction workers should wear personal protective equipment (PPE) at all times.
4. Employers should develop temperature screening protocols for all employees upon discovery that the business has been exposed to a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19.

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Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide our recommendations on getting construction back to work. Our goal is to ensure construction companies take the necessary precautions to protect the health and safety of their employees, and we appreciate the opportunity to present a comprehensive report.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact ABC Pennsylvania's Director of Government Affairs, David Greineder, at davidg@abcpa.org or (717) 951-5227.

Sincerely,

Tim Kessling

Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.

Board Chair, ABC Central Pennsylvania Chapter

Barbra Runyon

Brechbill & Helman Construction Company, Inc.

Board Chair, ABC Cumberland Valley Chapter

Tammi Talese

KLOVER Contracting Inc.

Board Chair, ABC Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter

Roger Brubaker

Meadow Valley Electric

Board Chair, ABC Keystone Chapter

Bob Pater

Farmers National Bank of Emlenton

Board Chair, ABC Western Pennsylvania Chapter

Enclosure: ABC Pennsylvania's COVID-19 Construction Safety Task Force Report