



**Government of the District of Columbia**  
**Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking**

**Karima Woods**  
Acting Commissioner

**INTERPRETIVE GUIDANCE on**  
**Mayor's Order 2020-053: Closure of Non-Essential Businesses and**  
**Prohibition on Large Gatherings During Public Health Emergency**  
**Revised 4/9/2020**

On March 24, 2020, Mayor Muriel Bowser issued Mayor's [Order 2020-053](#) to help mitigate the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). This interpretive guidance is intended to help the financial services sector understand how the Order impacts them.

Pursuant to Section IV(1)(g) of the Order, the definition of "essential businesses" includes financial services, including banks, credit unions, and related financial institutions.

For the purposes of Mayor's Order 2020-053, the Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking (DISB) considers "essential" those businesses that offer the following products and services:

- (1) Deposit, consumer credit, and payment systems products and services;
- (2) Credit and liquidity products and services;
- (3) Investment products and services; and
- (4) Risk transfer products and services (including insurance).

The businesses that offer these products and services include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Banks and credit unions and personnel;
- (2) Non-bank lenders and personnel;
- (3) Insurance companies and personnel;
- (4) Securities and investment companies and personnel;
- (5) Public adjusters and personnel;
- (6) Check cashers and personnel;
- (7) Money transmitters and personnel; and
- (8) Student loan servicers and personnel.

The Department also reiterates the point in Mayor's Order 2020-053 that even essential businesses should attempt to do as much as they can through telework and must implement procedures for social distancing for the staff that are at the office or conducting business.

Additional guidance for:

- Health insurers, please see [Commissioner's Order 01-2020](#), issued March 20, 2020.
- Mortgage brokers, mortgage lenders, and mortgage loan originators, please see [Commissioner's Order 02-2020](#), issued March 27, 2020.

The Department will continue to monitor this situation and issue further communications and guidance by bulletin or via its website, as appropriate.

Any questions or concerns regarding this bulletin may be directed to the Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking by phone at 202-727-8000, or by email at the following addresses: [disb@dc.gov](mailto:disb@dc.gov) (general inquiries and securities inquiries); [insurance.bureau@dc.gov](mailto:insurance.bureau@dc.gov) (insurance inquiries) or [bankingbureau@dc.gov](mailto:bankingbureau@dc.gov) (banking inquiries).

For resources and additional information on the District of Columbia Government's response to coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit [coronavirus.dc.gov](https://coronavirus.dc.gov).