

Michigan Continues to Gradually Reopen Economy

By Marlo Johnson Roebuck and Blaine A. Veldhuis

May 21, 2020

Consistent with her goal to gradually reopen businesses in the state while continuing to slow the spread of COVID-19 in Michigan, Governor Gretchen Whitmer has issued Executive Orders (EOs) [2020-96](#) and [2020-97](#) to permit *additional* businesses to resume operations if they meet certain, substantial requirements.

These EOs rescind EO 2020-91 and EO 2020-92. Moreover, previously, on May 15, 2020, [EO 2020-90](#) was signed, allowing research laboratories to resume operations, but EO 2020-97 institutes additional restrictions on those operations.

Importantly, businesses resuming operations are subject to specific restrictions, capacity limits, and training requirements.

Resumed Business Activities

Effective May 22, 2020, Governor Whitmer's Office is allowing workers who perform the following services to resume work:

- Workers in Region 6 (Traverse City Region) and Region 8 (Michigan's Upper Peninsula) necessary to perform retail activities, defined as the selling of goods and rendering of services incidental to the sale of goods (subject to the restrictions in [EO 2020-69](#)).
- Workers in Region 6 and Region 8 who work in an office setting, but only to the extent that such work is not capable of being performed remotely.
- Workers in Region 6 and Region 8 who work in restaurants and bars (subject to specific restrictions and capacity limits).

Effective May 26, 2020, Governor Whitmer's Office is allowing workers who perform the following services to resume work:

- Workers at motor vehicle dealerships, provided that showrooms are open only by appointment.
- Workers necessary to perform retail activities by appointment (subject to specific restrictions and capacity limits and the restrictions in [EO 2020-69](#)).

Effective May 29, 2020, the restrictions requiring the postponement of veterinary, medical, and dental procedures will be lifted, subject to the rules and limits set forth in [EO 2020-97](#).

Expanded Social Gathering

Effective May 21, 2020, Michigan residents may attend social gathering of no more than 10 people, in addition to traveling to resumed businesses.

EO 2020-98 and EO 2020-97 require the creation and implication of training, safety, and capacity related policies and Jackson Lewis can help assist with the drafting of those policies. In addition, Jackson Lewis has a [dedicated team](#) tracking and responding to the developing issues facing employers as a result of COVID-19. Please contact a team member or the Jackson Lewis attorney with whom you regularly work if you have questions or need assistance.

©2020 Jackson Lewis P.C. This material is provided for informational purposes only. It is not intended to constitute legal advice nor does it create a client-lawyer relationship between Jackson Lewis and any recipient. Recipients should consult with counsel before taking any actions based on the information contained within this material. This material may be considered attorney advertising in some jurisdictions. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.

Meet the Authors



[Marlo Johnson Roebuck](#)

Office Managing Principal
Detroit 248-936-1928
[Email](#)



[Blaine A. Veldhuis](#)

Associate
Detroit 248-936-1924
[Email](#)

Focused on labor and employment law since 1958, Jackson Lewis P.C.'s 950+ attorneys located in major cities nationwide consistently identify and respond to new ways workplace law intersects business. We help employers develop proactive strategies, strong policies and business-oriented solutions to cultivate high-functioning workforces that are engaged, stable and diverse, and share our clients' goals to emphasize inclusivity and respect for the contribution of every employee. For more information, visit <https://www.jacksonlewis.com>.

©2020 Jackson Lewis P.C. All rights reserved. Attorney Advertising. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome. No client-lawyer relationship has been established by the posting or viewing of information on this website.

*The National Operations Center serves as the firm's central administration hub and houses the firm's Facilities, Finance, Human Resources and Technology departments.