



Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D.C. 20530

April 8, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS

FROM: THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. P. Barr", is written over the text "THE ATTORNEY GENERAL".

This memorandum supplements my March 20, 2020 memorandum with specific information about federal contractor employees. While the crisis associated with the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we can reasonably expect States and localities to retain shelter-in-place, stay-at-home, lockdown, and other orders imposing travel restrictions. Many of those orders expressly exempt the federal government or essential governmental functions, and many federal employees and contractors are able to carry on their work without engaging in conduct that would otherwise be precluded by the orders. But such orders cannot prevent federal employees and contractor employees from traveling to their work sites or other locations when that is necessary for them to perform their federal functions and duties.

Although some contractor employees carry Personal Identity Verification (“PIV”) cards or other federal credentials that identify them as supporting critical ongoing government programs, many do not. In order to ensure that the employees of federal contractors continue to provide services to the public, I am directing that all United States Attorneys contact state and local law enforcement leaders in their geographic areas of responsibility to inform them of the following:

- 1) Federal contractors supporting a wide variety of federal agencies have been advised of the circumstances under which federal contractor employees may travel and commute consistent with CDC guidelines. Federal contractors and agencies will continue to monitor and ensure that these guidelines are followed as appropriate as the situation develops.
- 2) Some federal contractor employees carry federally issued identification, but many do not. If encountered by local law enforcement during travel to work sites, federal contractor employees should identify themselves and explain the nature of their work and travel. They may also present a letter and explain that it was provided by the federal agency contracting for their services, such as the Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Census Bureau, or the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- 3) Accordingly, the United States Attorneys should inform their state and local law enforcement partners that we are requesting their assistance to ensure that local law enforcement officials enforcing travel restrictions are aware that federal employees *and contractor employees* must be allowed to travel and commute to perform their work and

should not be prevented from doing so, even when travel restrictions are in place. Such individuals may present either federal identification or federal agency authorization letters, as appropriate.

I greatly appreciate your efforts following my March 20, 2020 memorandum to work with state and local authorities to ensure mobility for critical federal employees and contractors with federally-issued identification as we address the COVID-19 situation. Your further assistance with respect to this additional category of critical contractor employees who lack PIV or other federal identification, but have agency letters, is also appreciated.