



John Bel Edwards
Governor

STATE OF LOUISIANA
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA



John Ducrest, CPA
Commissioner
ED-Dep-01-20

March 16, 2020

Emergency Declaration by Commissioner of Financial Institutions

Governor Edwards' Proclamation No. 25 JBE 2020 dated March 11, 2020, and Proclamation No. 27 JBE 2020 dated March 13, 2020, declared a Public Health Emergency for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) through April 9, 2020, unless terminated sooner. Pursuant to the powers vested in me by the provisions of LSA R.S. 6:121(A) to carry out the duties of this Office, and, as a result of the serious and continuing concerns in multiple parishes in the State of Louisiana, which may threaten the lives and property of the residents and businesses located in such areas, I hereby deem these conditions to create an emergency relative to financial institutions in general, and as to their employees, and their customers, and therefore issue the following guidance:

Branch closures

As a result of this finding, I hereby issue this emergency declaration relative to financial institutions operating in any parish of the State, as designated by the Governor's Proclamation, and hereby grant financial institutions the temporary authority to close existing branch offices located therein.

Closure information

Any OFI requirements necessary to close a branch office in the State are hereby expressly waived for financial institutions whose operations are interrupted by the pandemic. The financial institution should post a notice for public view at the physical location in the event that branch closure is necessary. The institution shall provide the following information to OFI in writing via email to ofila@ofi.la.gov as soon as practicable, and in no case more than 5 calendar days after a decision is made to close a branch office:

1. Name and physical address of the closed branch
2. Name and contact information of bank representative knowledgeable of the closing
3. Such other information as the Commissioner may request

Reduced Operations

You may choose to limit hours, to reduce functions, or even to close certain days of the week, as a result of the pandemic. These are consistent with the Certificate of Authority granted to your institution for your branch/main office. You should post any such changes in operations for public view at any affected location.

This declaration shall expire after Thursday, April 9, 2020, unless renewed by further emergency declaration of the Commissioner.

Declared and issued this 16th day of March 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Ducrest". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Ducrest, CPA Commissioner
Office of Financial Institutions