Brothers and Sisters,

Earlier this week, the Governors of California and Nevada issued Executive Orders ordering residents to stay at home to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

However, exemptions were put in place for essential workers needed to maintain continuity of operation of the federal critical infrastructure sectors, critical government services, schools, childcare, and construction, including housing construction. Which means Carpenter work is exempt from these orders.

As Carpenters, we’re essential members of our communities, our cities, and our states. Now, more than ever, we’re needed to keep the infrastructure and essential services our families depend on going strong.

All members who are healthy and symptom-free may continue to report to any scheduled shifts.

We understand there are and will be many questions in the coming days and weeks. We are striving to keep our essential membership services open at a local level, but please understand that our decision to keep the doors open is subject to change. Rest assured, we are working around the clock to make sure your voices are being heard and your rights are being respected.

We’re talking with elected officials about updates, changes, or implementations of policy to help our members. We’re talking with developers and contractors to make sure your concerns are being represented. We’re participating at the local, county, and state level to ensure that our communities are safe and supported.

We understand what’s at stake and we will, as we always have, do what needs to be done to secure the safety of our Carpenter families, co-workers, and communities.

In the coming days, the SWRCC will be rolling out measures to help you deal with the impacts that the COVID-19 pandemic is having on your day-to-day life. Stay tuned to https://www.swcarpenters.org/covid19/ for the latest updates, resources and FAQs.

Carpenters, take comfort in knowing that your Union has your back. And feel confident that when this runs its course, we’ll still be standing strong and doing everything we can to help get our local economies up and running quickly.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and stay strong.

Fraternally,

Dan Langford
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters