



**MEMBER ALERT!**

**March 24, 2020**

**From: Jordan Lamb, DeWitt Law Firm**

**Governor Evers Issues “Safer at Home” Order with Broad Authorization for Continued Farming and Food Production in Wisconsin**

This morning, Governor Evers released the attached **Wisconsin “Safer at Home” Order**.

This Order is **in effect from 8:00 a.m. March 25, 2020 through 8:00 a.m. April 24, 2020** or until a superseding order is issued.

It orders Wisconsin residents to “stay at home or at their place of residence” with several important exceptions for special situations. **One of those important exceptions is for the continued operation of farms, food production and food distribution and all related food production supply chain and workers.**

The Order ALLOWS individuals to leave their residence to work for:

- **ANIMAL HEALTH.** Healthcare and Public Health Operations - “healthcare and public health operations” includes **veterinary care and all healthcare services provided to animals**. *See page 5.*
- **FOOD PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.** Essential Infrastructure is defined to include food production and distribution. This includes, “Food and beverage production, transport, and agriculture. Food and beverage manufacturing, production, processing, transportation, and cultivation; farming, livestock, fishing, baking, and other production agriculture, including cultivation, marketing, production, and distribution of animals and goods for consumption; businesses that provide food, shelter, and other necessities of life for animals, including animal shelters, boarding, rescues, kennels, and adopting facilities; farm and agriculture equipment, supplies, and repair services.” *See page 6.*
- **FOOD AND AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION BUSINESSES AND WORKERS.** Essential Business Operations -- “essential businesses operations” includes “any business or worker identified in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) [Memorandum on Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers During COVID-19 Response](#), updated March 23, 2020. *See page 9*

*of the Wisconsin Order and broad "Food and Agriculture" category on page 6 of the linked memo. "Essential businesses and operations" also specifically includes "food and beverage production, transport and agriculture." See page 10.*

- **SUPPLIES and SUPPLY CHAIN FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE BUSINESSES.** "Essential businesses and operations" also specifically includes "supplies for essential businesses and operations and essential government functions." *See page 13.* "Essential businesses and operations" also specifically includes "manufacture, distribution, and supply chain for critical products and industries." *See page 14.* Agriculture and food and beverage is specifically listed here, as well.

**IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT SOCIAL DISTANCING AND REMOTE WORK FOR ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES AND OPERATIONS:** Although agriculture and agribusiness is clearly designated an Essential Business as described above, please note that **all Essential Businesses and Operations described in this Order "...shall meet Social Distancing Requirements between all individuals on the premises to the extent possible. Essential Businesses and Operations shall, to the greatest extent possible, use technology to avoid meeting in person, including virtual meetings, teleconference, and remote work (i.e., work from home)." See page 9 of the Order.**