



UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA

*Douglas J. McCarron*

General President

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** All Councils Affiliated with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America ("UBC")

**FROM:** Douglas J. McCarron, General President

**DATE:** March 17, 2020<sup>1</sup>

**RE:** Coronavirus ("COVID-19") and Conducting Union Business

On March 13, the United States government issued a "Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak". The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, a federal government agency, announced that it "recommends that for the next 8 weeks, organizers cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the U.S." (See, [www.cdc.org](http://www.cdc.org), last visited March 16.) (The Public Health Agency of Canada, an agency of the Canadian government, does not appear to have issued a similar recommendation at this time. See, [www.canada.ca/en/public-health](http://www.canada.ca/en/public-health), last visited March 16.) State and/or local governments in the United States have recommended or imposed other more stringent restrictions.

UBC-affiliated local unions and councils hold meetings to conduct union business. For example, the UBC's 42<sup>nd</sup> General Convention ("Convention") shall be held on August 24-27, in Las Vegas, Nevada. The UBC issued a Convention Call on or about December 30, 2019. UBC affiliates, if they have not already done so, must complete nominations and elections for delegates to the Convention by no later than April 30.

In view of the COVID-19 Outbreak, however, UBC affiliates may not be able to conduct business as usual. Thus, adjustments to usual procedures may need to be made, such as conducting a mail ballot election, videoconferencing meetings, etc. Accordingly, any affiliate may request dispensation from a requirement under its bylaws, the UBC Constitution, and/or the Convention Call by submitting a request in writing, describing

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<sup>1</sup> All dates are in 2020 unless otherwise indicated.

the reasons for the dispensation request and the specific relief requested, to the General President's Office at the following address or faxed to (202) 543-5724:

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America  
101 Constitution Avenue, NW,  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor West  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Hopefully, the Novel Coronavirus Disease will soon be contained and daily life can return to normal. In the meantime, please encourage your employees and UBC members and their families to observe recommended health guidelines to stay safe and healthy. **All Councils are requested to immediately forward this Memorandum to each of its affiliated Local Unions.**

cc: General Executive Board Members