



March 23, 2020

Dear Member:

In this unprecedented response to the global impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the trucking industry through the American Trucking Associations and the commercial motor vehicle enforcement community represented by the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance, are closely coordinating efforts to ensure the availability of food, medicine and other essentials needed to combat the threat this virus presents to our society and our North American economy.

To that end, ATA and CVSA are working closely with a number of industry trade and public-sector associations, various government regulating departments and agencies, and the regulated industry at large to ensure that drivers who are engaged in the transportation of those goods deemed essential to combat COVID-19 by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's emergency declaration that was issued on March 13<sup>1</sup> and subsequently enhanced on March 18<sup>2</sup> are able to do so effectively and efficiently. FMCSA has [published](#) frequently asked questions about the emergency declaration and further guidance will be forthcoming.

In addition, ATA is clearly communicating to its members and the broader trucking industry what goods and services are covered and which are not subject to the hours-of-service relief granted under FMCSA's emergency declaration. CVSA is simultaneously updating the CMV enforcement community so that North America's roadside CMV enforcement officials are up-to-date on the latest information on what operations and commodities qualify for relief under FMCSA's emergency declaration. CVSA is also providing information for inspectors and drivers on personal protection and decontamination guidelines, a primary concern for everyone on the frontline. CVSA is also covering inspection guidelines and regulations applicable to shipping patient samples of COVID-19 and hospital waste associated with the virus.

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<sup>1</sup> US Department of Transportation Issues National Emergency Declaration for Commercial Vehicles Delivering Relief in Response to the Coronavirus Outbreak <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/newsroom/us-department-transportation-issues-national-emergency-declaration-commercial-vehicles>

<sup>2</sup> US Department of Transportation Expands National Emergency Declaration for Commercial Vehicles Delivering Relief in Response to the Coronavirus Outbreak <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/newsroom/us-department-transportation-expands-national-emergency-declaration-commercial-vehicles>

Both organizations are committed to doing what they can to ensure the smooth flow of goods and services to all of the people and places affected by this global pandemic and national emergency. To that end, we are both working with government authorities and organizations so that drivers can continue to make critical deliveries even as various restrictions on movements and travel are imposed.

The threat COVID-19 poses to our communities is nearly unprecedented, but the trucking community, government regulators and CMV enforcement officials are committed to working together to making sure that supplies important to the recovery effort arrive efficiently and safely at our stores and hospitals.

Sincerely,



Chris Spear  
President & CEO  
American Trucking Associations



Collin Mooney  
Executive Director  
Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance