



With the COVID-19 situation changing daily, CARA would like to keep dealers informed with timely updates and connected to resources that will be beneficial to your business and employees. You can also find information on our website at <https://www.ctcar.org/covid19-updates>



DEALERSHIP UPDATES

Please read the member letter below regarding the open phone call held today with the Department of Economic and Community Development.



MESSAGES FROM GOVERNOR OF CONNECTICUT

For the most up-to-date information coming out of the Governor's office, please visit <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus>. Governor Lamont also mandated barber shops, hair salons, and nail salons to close.



RESOURCES FOR DEALERSHIPS

CARA has gathered a number of resources for dealerships and posted them on our website. We will update the website as new resources are available. To view, please visit <https://www.ctcar.org/covid19-updates>.



To Our Members:

Governor Lamont and Commissioner Lehman, Department of Economic and Community Development, held a conference call regarding businesses in Connecticut during this crisis. 2,000 participants were on the call, while more were unable to connect after the call reached its maximum capacity. Rick Parmelee, dealer accountant with Blum Shapiro, and I were on the call.

At this time, Governor Lamont does not want to shut down Connecticut. No decision has been made and from what was implied during the call, this decision would be made in coordination with our neighboring states.

The following were some points from the call:

- No specifics were given by industry on what should be deemed essential and non-essential
- There was discussion on deferments of state taxes. All options are on the table. There will be a delay of the Corporation Tax until June 15.
- The Governor is very cognizant of the liquidity issue for all small businesses.
- Governor Lamont is working to create a small business bridge loan program, 12- 18 months within the next week. There will be a cap on the loans but there were no specifics.
- PURA is extending the 30 days moratorium for electric shutoffs for commercial and residential.
- Paid Family and Sick Leave will be a credit not cash.
- The Governor is directing the Department of Labor to provide unemployment benefits for part-time employees. No details on timing.
- Banks - No interest and principal on loans through 6/30/20 – re-amortize
- 12,000 unemployment claims were filed yesterday.

I have asked DMV and the Governor to deem vehicle repair, vehicle maintenance and vehicle sales facilities essential businesses as some states have done. No decision on this has been made.

We will continue to update our dealer members with any new information.

CARA is working remotely this week. We are continually monitoring our office phone messages and emails. Please do not hesitate to contact Ann or me. - Jim