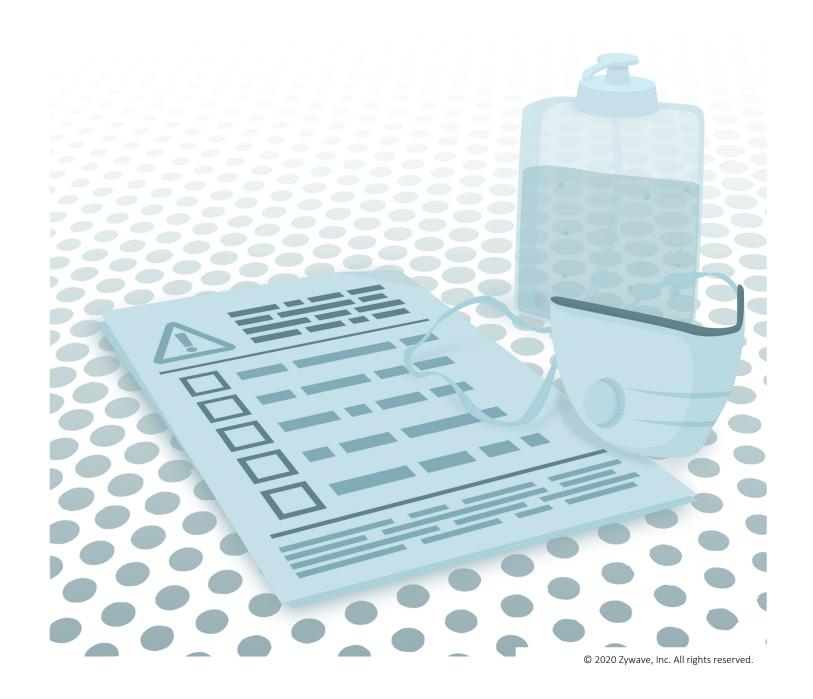
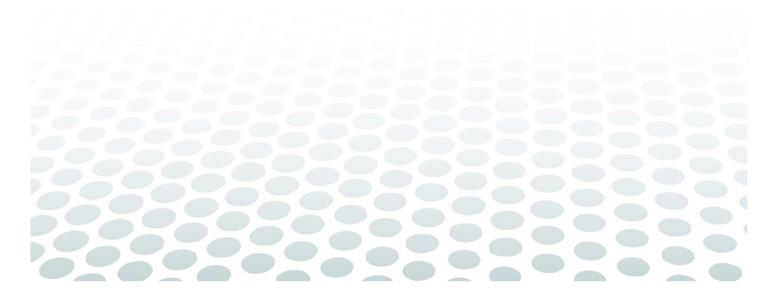
# Best Of: Post-coronavirus Checklists



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#### CHECKLIST | POST-CORONAVIRUS WORKPLACE PREPAREDNESS

Presented by Sterling Insurance Group

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has changed many aspects of the current workplace, and hygiene and cleanliness are key topics when creating post-coronavirus workplace plans. Based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there are actions employers can consider. By taking workplace preparedness steps such as updating office layouts, encouraging new behaviors and evaluating existing policies, employers can help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect the health and safety of employees. To get started, employers can review topics on this checklist.

Employee Behaviors	YES	NO	N/A
Are employees practicing social distancing, maintaining a distance of 6 feet or more from each other?			
Are employees washing their hands regularly for 20 seconds with soap and water?			
Are employees practicing social distancing in meetings?			
Are employees avoiding the use of multi-touch devices, such as shared computers in meeting rooms?			
Personal Protective Equipment	YES	NO	N/A
Tersonal Protective Equipment	TES	NO	IN/A
Are employees expected to wear face coverings or masks in the workplace?			
Are face coverings or masks provided to employees?			
If face coverings or masks are not provided to employees, is a reimbursement program in place for any costs of face coverings, masks or necessary materials?			
Are gloves provided to employees?			
Employee Communications	YES	NO	N/A
Are employees trained on what COVID-19 related symptoms to look for?			
Have employees received communications regarding COVID-19 workplace best practices?			
If using face coverings or masks, have employees been trained on proper procedures?			

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#### **CHECKLIST** | POST-CORONAVIRUS WORKPLACE PREPAREDNESS

Cleaning	YES	NO	N/A
Are routine cleanings conducted frequently?			
Do cleaning routines use soap and water, and disinfections listed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19?			
Are cleaning supplies stocked, including EPA-recommended disinfectants?			
Are all multi-touch surfaces such as doorknobs part of cleaning routines?			
Are hand sanitizer and sanitizer wipes provided to employees?			
If using face coverings or masks, does your organization have a cleaning procedure in place?			
Workplace Facilities, Equipment and Layout	YES	NO	N/A
Do employees have workstations 6 feet or more apart?			
Are walls or barriers set up between employee workstations?			
Has a walk-traffic flow that discourages congestion been established?			
Do facilities have high-functioning air filters?			
Do facilities have automatic doors?			
Do bathrooms have no-touch sinks and soap dispensers?			
Do bathrooms have no-touch paper towel dispensers?			
Policies and Preparedness	YES	NO	N/A
Is a hand-washing policy in place?			
Has a social distancing meeting policy been established?			
Is a policy in place to protect employees in COVID-19 high-risk categories?			
Does your organization have a prepared response for employees who have COVID-19-related symptoms?			
Does your organization have a planned response in place in the event of an employee testing positive for COVID-19?			

Use this checklist as a guide when planning your post-coronavirus workplace preparedness plan. For any checklist items you select "NO," consider whether any updates could help protect the health and safety of your employees. For assistance with COVID-19-related topics, contact Sterling Insurance Group.

#### CHECKLIST | POST-CORONAVIRUS OFFICE

Presented by Sterling Insurance Group

As organizations create return-to-work plans, many employers are reviewing best practices for their post-coronavirus office. By updating office layouts, encouraging new behaviors and expanding remote work options, employers can help prevent the spread of diseases and protect the health and safety of employees. Use this checklist as a guide when evaluating changes to your office.

Physical Updates to Office	YES	NO	N/A
Do employees have workstations 6 feet or more apart?			
Are walls or barriers set up between employee workstations?			
Has a walk-traffic flow that discourages congestion been established?			
Do facilities have high-functioning air filters?			
Do facilities have automatic doors?			
Do bathrooms have no-touch sinks and soap dispensers?			
Do bathrooms have no-touch paper towel dispensers?			
Employee Behaviors	YES	NO	N/A
Employee Behaviors  Are employees washing their hands regularly for 20 seconds with soap and water?	YES	NO	N/A
Are employees washing their hands regularly for 20 seconds with soap and			N/A
Are employees washing their hands regularly for 20 seconds with soap and water?			
Are employees washing their hands regularly for 20 seconds with soap and water?  Are employees avoiding shaking hands?			
Are employees washing their hands regularly for 20 seconds with soap and water?  Are employees avoiding shaking hands?  Are employees practicing social distancing?			
Are employees washing their hands regularly for 20 seconds with soap and water?  Are employees avoiding shaking hands?  Are employees practicing social distancing?  Are employees practicing social distancing in meetings?  Are employees avoiding the use of multi-touch devices, such as shared			

Cleaning	YES	NO	N/A
Are routine cleanings conducted frequently?			
Do cleaning routines use soap, water and disinfectants listed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19?			
Are cleaning supplies stocked, including EPA-recommended disinfectants?			
Are all multi-touch surfaces such as doorknobs part of cleaning routines?			
Are hand sanitizer and sanitizer wipes provided to employees?			
If using face coverings or masks, does your organization have a cleaning procedure in place?			
Remote Work Planning	YES	NO	N/A
Has your organization considered the feasibility of remote work in your workplace?			
Have remote work expectations been established for when employees return to work?			
Have return-to-work expectations been communicated to employees?			
Policies and Preparedness	YES	NO	N/A
Is a policy in place to protect employees in COVID-19 high-risk categories?			
Has your organization considered updates to leave policies?			
Has your organization considered screening employees for COVID-19-related symptoms?			
Does your organization have a prepared response for employees who have COVID-19-related symptoms?			
Does your organization have a planned response in place in the event of an employee testing positive for COVID-19?			
Is your organization prepared to fully or partially close the workplace in the future?			



Use this checklist as a guide when planning your post-coronavirus office. For any checklist items you select "NO," consider whether any updates could help protect the health and safety of your employees. For assistance with COVID-19-related topics, contact Sterling Insurance Group.

### CHECKLIST | RESPONDING TO A POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST

Presented by Sterling Insurance Group

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has challenged employers to plan for how they would respond to a positive test in their workplace. Employers are responsible for handling the situation swiftly to protect the health of other employees while preserving the affected employee's confidentiality. In addition to notifying the company and its customers, employers must also disinfect the office and evaluate next steps. If you're in this situation, you may be wondering what you need to do. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides guidelines for how employers can respond, and this checklist provides an outline of steps for employers to consider.

Employer Preparedness Plans	YES	NO	N/A
Does your organization have COVID-19 testing practices in place that comply with all applicable federal and local guidance?			
Does your organization have a planned response in place in the event of an employee testing positive for COVID-19?			
If yes, has a planned response been communicated to employees?			

Addressing Employee Who Tested Positive	
Calmly and empathetically address the employee to discuss next steps and assistance.	
Ensure the employee that their identity will remain confidential.	
Question the employee about with whom they have been in contact within the last 14 days.	
Determine if the employee has been in the workplace within the last seven days.	
Ensure the employee goes into isolation, and help them coordinate taking leave or paid time off until they've recovered.	
Refer the employee to local health resources.	

Communications	
Notify any co-workers or customers with whom the ill employee had been in contact.	
Make determinations on any employees who should begin self-isolation for 14 days. Communicate steps for self-isolation, including taking leave, paid time off or remote work arrangements.	
Notify the rest of the company by email or letter that an employee has tested positive for COVID-19. Keep employee's identity confidential.	
Notify employees on next steps, including details for a partial or full closing of the workplace for disinfecting.	
If planning on having any or all employees work from home or closing the office, disclose this information in the communication.	
Close Down the Workplace	
Determine whether the workplace will be partially or fully closing for disinfecting.	
If feasible, allow eligible employees to work from home during this time.	
Ensure all temporary closing information is communicated to employees, including whom this affects, remote work expectations, paid time off, leave and expected timelines for reopening the workplace.	
Review provisions included in the newly instituted federal leave act, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), should you need to close the office or if employees opt to take leave due to COVID-19. Certain employers are required to provide employees with expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19 through Dec. 31, 2020.	
Create plans for only cleaning staff to be in infected areas for 72 hours during the disinfecting period.	
Preparing for Disinfecting	
If the employee has been in the workplace within the last seven days, begin preparations for disinfecting the workplace.	
Ensure necessary cleaning supplies are stocked, including soap and disinfectants listed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.	
Ensure personal protective equipment is stocked for cleaning teams, including gloves, gowns and face coverings.	
Evacuate planned areas for disinfecting for at least 72 hours.	П

Disinfecting the Workplace	
Close off all areas visited by the person, open windows and use ventilating fans with airflow. After opening up the airflow, wait 24 hours before beginning cleaning.	
After 24 hours, cleaning staff should begin disinfecting all areas and equipment used by the person.	
Ensure cleaning staff is using personal protective equipment, including gloves, gowns and face coverings.	
Begin by cleaning all hard surfaces with soap and water.	
Apply a disinfectant to all surfaces. The EPA lists appropriate disinfectants for use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.	
Clean soft surfaces such as carpeted floor, rugs and drapes. For soft surfaces, best cleaning practices are similar to those of hard surfaces. However, you can clean by laundering if possible. If not an option, continue to clean with a disinfectant.	
Clean electronic devices, according to manufacturers' instructions, or with alcohol-based cleaning solutions with at least 70% alcohol.	
Clean soft laundry items, such as towels, linens and work-related clothing using manufacturers' instructions, using the warmest possible water setting.	
When employees return after 72 hours, resume routine cleaning routines.	

Use this checklist as a guide when planning how to respond to an employee testing positive for COVID-19. For any items you are unable to check, consider if any updates to your organization's response could help protect the health and safety of employees and guests. By preparing in advance, employers can swiftly respond to the employee, effectively notify the rest of their organization and make plans for moving forward. Sterling Insurance Group is here to help during these uncertain times. Contact us today for additional COVID-19 resources and guidance for how your company can respond to it.



Presented by Sterling Insurance Group

As remote work has been an expanded practice, many organizations are reviewing how they can best support and plan for use of the remote workplace. Employers can use this checklist when reviewing and planning a remote workstation setup for current employees, or when planning a remote onboarding process. Remote workstation setup can vary by organization, and the employee's role and responsibilities. Employers can review this checklist to determine which components of a remote workstation should be provided to employees and what technology considerations should be planned for.

Workstation Environment and Setup	
Adequate space within the employee's home for an office	
Workstation area that complies with ergonomic and safety guidelines	
Workstation in a location with broadband network able to download and upload at a minimum of 1.5 megabytes per second	
Environment with minimal noise and distractions	
Desk or work area with sufficient space for equipment	
Comfortable and ergonomic office chair	
Computer	
Desktop or laptop, either provided by the employer or employee	
Adequate hard drive capacity and memory on computer to perform necessary job duties	
If video calls will be part of the employee's job responsibilities, computer includes a webcam	
Headset with microphone	
Power cord	
Mouse	
Mouse pad	



Optional Workstation Equipment	YES	NO	N/A
Docking station or hub			
External monitor			
Additional monitor for dual-monitor setup			
External keyboard			
Printer			
Fax machine			
Office Supplies	YES	NO	N/A
Notebooks			
Binders			
Paper			
Pens			
Pencils			
Stapler			
Staples			
Technology Software and Services	YES	NO	N/A
Cloud-based phone subscription service or cellphone			
Virtual private network (VPN) established for employee's computer			
Internal network access given to employee for all necessary job functions			

Use this checklist as a guide when planning the remote workstation setup for employees working remotely full- or part-time at your organization. For assistance with remote work planning, contact Sterling Insurance Group.



### CHECKLIST | POST-CORONAVIRUS REMOTE WORK PLANNING

Presented by Sterling Insurance Group

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has changed many aspects of the current workplace. As organizations create post-coronavirus return-to-work plans, many employers are reviewing remote work practices. Employers can use this checklist when implementing remote work.

Remote Work Planning	YES	NO
Has your organization considered the feasibility of remote work in your workplace?		
Has your organization considered interviewing candidates virtually?		
Has a process for onboarding remote employees been established?		
Have remote work expectations been established for when employees return to work?		
Have return-to-work expectations been communicated to employees?		
Schedule	YES	NO
Does your organization have set guidelines for working hours?		
Have guidelines for working hours been communicated to employees?		
Are scheduling expectations detailed in your telecommuting policy?		
Does your organization have a plan to monitor when employees are online?		
Are employees required to check in when they're working remotely?		
Does your organization have a plan in place to accommodate employees who may be balancing caregiving and working-from-home responsibilities?		
Policies	YES	NO
Does your organization have a telecommuting policy?		
Does your policy include information about expected working hours?		
Does your policy include information about communication expectations?		

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Does your policy include information about your company's cyber security expectations?		
Does your policy include information about your company's expectations for using company property at home?		
Does your policy include information about productivity expectations?		
Have employees received your telecommuting policy?		
Does your organization require employees to sign a policy acknowledgment agreement?		
Has your employee handbook been updated with specific guidelines for remote work?		
Technology	YES	NO
Do your remote employees have access to all the technology they need?		
Does your company have access to video conferencing technology?		
Does your company have access to communication platforms?		
Does your organization have a plan in place for what employees should do if they have issues with their technology?		
Are employees allowed to request additional equipment should they need it?		
Are technology specifications detailed in your telecommuting policy?		
	1	
Communication	YES	NO
Does your organization have a plan for regular communication with remote employees?		
Is your communication plan detailed in your company's telecommuting policy?		
Are managers checking in with employees daily?		
Are plans in place for fostering teamwide communication?		
Has your organization provided resources to employees on work-from-home ergonomics?		
Does your communication plan include providing companywide news regarding the COVID-19 pandemic?		

Employee Engagement	YES	NO
Does your organization have a plan for keeping remote employees engaged?		
Does your organization have an employee recognition program for remote employees?		
Does your organization encourage employees to preserve their work-life balance?		
Do managers check in on employees' mental well-being?		
Are strategies in place to ensure employees don't feel isolated?		
Do employees have access to telecommuting resources?		
Are social engagement opportunities provided to remote employees, such as video calls intended for non-work conversations and team-building?		

Use this checklist as a guide for remote work considerations when creating return-to-work plans. For additional resources on COVID-19, contact Sterling Insurance Group.

## CHECKLIST | RETURN-TO-WORK COMMUNICATIONS PLANNING

Presented by Sterling Insurance Group

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has challenged existing practices in the workplace, and many employers are implementing return to work plans—which often include updating expectations for employees and partners. When utilizing effective communications, organizations can equip employees to contribute to post-coronavirus efforts. By being proactive and establishing effective communication plans, employers can not only help prevent the spread of COVID-19 but put employees at ease, knowing that necessary steps are being taken to best ensure their health and safety. As return to work updates often influence various workplace changes, organizations may also want to consider how to effectively communicate with customers, vendors, guests and local officials. To get started, employers can review how topics on this checklist fit into their communications strategy.

Employee Relations	YES	NO	N/A
Are employees being referred to a primary channel of communications for COVID-19-related updates?			
Have employees received communications regarding expectations for handwashing?			
Have employees received communications regarding expectations for proper social distancing?			
If employees are expected to wear face coverings or masks in the workplace, have expectations been communicated?			
If face coverings or masks are not provided to employees, have details been communicated for any face covering or mask cost reimbursement programs?			
Have employees received communications regarding policies in place to protect employees in COVID-19 high-risk categories?			
Have employees received communications regarding any updates to remote work policies?			
Have employees received communications regarding any updates to business travel policies?			
Have updated expectations for meetings been communicated to employees?			
Have employees received information on existing or new leave policies?			
Has your organization provided communications on updated virus-resistant cleaning procedures, including any expectations of employees?			
Has your organization provided employees with health and wellness resources?			

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Training Employees	YES	NO	N/A
Are employees trained on what COVID-19-related symptoms to look for?			
Are employees trained on proper hand-washing, including how and when to wash their hands?			
If using face coverings or masks, have employees been trained on proper procedures?			
Are employees trained on cleaning and disposing of personal protective equipment, including face coverings, masks and gloves?			
Have cleaning teams been trained on coronavirus-resistant best practices, including cleaning surfaces with use of disinfectants that are listed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19?			
Are employees aware that thorough cleaning procedures do not replace best practices, such as social distancing?			
Monitoring COVID-19 Symptoms	YES	NO	N/A
Monitoring COVID-19 Symptoms  If conducting COVID-19 screenings on-site, have employees received communications clarifying the process of screenings?	YES	NO	N/A
If conducting COVID-19 screenings on-site, have employees received		_	N/A
If conducting COVID-19 screenings on-site, have employees received communications clarifying the process of screenings?  If conducting COVID-19 screenings on-site, have been employees been assured that all screenings will be conducted using safe practices and in full compliance		_	N/A
If conducting COVID-19 screenings on-site, have employees received communications clarifying the process of screenings?  If conducting COVID-19 screenings on-site, have been employees been assured that all screenings will be conducted using safe practices and in full compliance with all federal and local laws?  Are employees aware of follow-up steps should they display COVID-19-related		_	
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If conducting COVID-19 screenings on-site, have employees received communications clarifying the process of screenings?  If conducting COVID-19 screenings on-site, have been employees been assured that all screenings will be conducted using safe practices and in full compliance with all federal and local laws?  Are employees aware of follow-up steps should they display COVID-19-related symptoms?  Customers, Vendors and Guests	YES	□ □ NO	

Local Health Officials	YES	NO	N/A
Is your organization following guidance from local health officials and establishing ongoing dialogue as necessary?			
Is your organization prepared to utilize local health resources in the event of a positive COVID-19 test and recommend health resources to affected employees?			

Future Preparedness	YES	NO	N/A
Does your organization have a planned response in place in the event of an employee testing positive for COVID-19?			
Have disinfecting and cleaning plans been communicated to employees in the event of an employee testing positive for COVID-19?			
Does your planned response include notifying employees and guests of a positive COVID-19 test?			
Does your organization have a preparedness plan for communicating updates for any future partial or full closings of the workplace?			

Use this checklist as a guide when planning your organization's post-coronavirus communications plans. For any checklist items you select "NO," consider if any changes could help ensure return to work plans are communicated effectively. For assistance with COVID-19-related topics, contact Sterling Insurance Group.



## **CLEANING**

Presented by Sterling Insurance Group

As employers prepare return to work plans, workplace cleanliness is a topic on the minds of many. In the wake of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, cleaning practices play a crucial role when reopening workplaces. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) outline best practices for employers regarding routine cleanings of a workplace to best prevent the spread of COVID-19. To get started, employers can consider topics on this checklist when planning or updating cleaning routines.

Routine Cleaning Practices	YES	NO	N/A
Are routine cleanings conducted frequently?			
Do cleaning routines begin by cleaning with soap and water?			
Do cleaning practices use disinfectants listed by the EPA to use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19?			
Are all multi-touch surfaces such as doorknobs part of routine cleanings?			
Are electronic devices being routinely cleaned according to manufacturer's instructions or with alcohol-based cleaning solutions with at least 70% alcohol?			
Are soft surfaces such as carpeted floor, rugs and drapes being routinely cleaned with soap, water and appropriate cleaners designated by manufacturer's recommendations or an EPA-recommended disinfectant?			
Are soft laundry items, such as towels, linens and work-related clothing being routinely cleaned using manufacturers' instructions, with the warmest possible water setting?			
Are high-touch outdoor surfaces such as bars or railings included in cleaning routines?			
If employees are using face coverings or masks, is a cleaning procedure in place?			
Workplace Equipment and Supplies	YES	NO	N/A
Are HEPA air filters operational and well-maintained?			
Is hand sanitizer provided to employees?			
Are sanitizer wipes provided to employees?			
Are cleaning supplies stocked, including EPA-recommended disinfectants?			

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Employee Participation	YES	NO	N/A
Are employees washing their hands regularly for 20 seconds with soap and water?			
Are employees cleaning their work areas?			
Are employees cleaning their electronic devices and work equipment?			
Are employees avoiding the use of multi-touch devices, such as shared computers in meeting rooms?			
Employee Compunications	VEC	NO	N1/A
Employee Communications	YES	NO	N/A
Have cleaning expectations been communicated to employees?			
Are employees trained on properly washing, including how and when to wash their hands?			
Are employees trained on cleaning and disposing of personal protective equipment, including face coverings, masks and gloves?			
Have disinfecting and cleaning plans been communicated to employees in the event of an employee testing positive for COVID-19?			
Are employees aware that thorough cleaning procedures do not replace best practices, such as social distancing?			
	ı		
COVID-19 Disinfecting Preparedness	YES	NO	N/A
Does your organization have a planned workplace disinfection response in place in the event of an employee testing positive for COVID-19?			
If disinfecting in response to a positive COVID-19 test, are all required supplies on hand?			
If disinfecting in response to a positive COVID-19 test, are teams properly trained and prepared for appropriate disinfecting practices?			

Thorough cleaning practices can help prevent the spread of COVID-19. When creating return to work plans, consider suggestions from this checklist. For further resources on COVID-19, contact Sterling Insurance Group.