

March 5, 2020

Dear Members,

AILA is carefully monitoring the progression of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in the U.S. and is preparing for the potential impact on our community and Association. While the current risk to the general public in the United States is low, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO), we are mindful of how this may impact our community and want to ensure that our members are aware of the issues they need to consider and are taking the necessary precautions. To that end, AILA's Practice & Professionalism Center is in the process of creating member resources and will be sharing these materials to guide members as they begin reviewing emergency protocols and preparing their practices for potential impacts.

Members also should rest assured that even if COVID-19 continues to spread and develop, access to member services will continue without disruption. AILA staff has updated emergency preparedness plans and is prepared to implement those plans as needed. At this time, all upcoming AILA National events will be held as scheduled and webcast options will be made available for those who are unable or prefer not to travel. Considerations such as the health and safety of the AILA community and staff, airline restrictions, and travel warnings issued by the CDC, WHO, and state and local authorities will inform ongoing event decisions. Changes, should they occur, will be communicated to registered attendees and will be posted to the relevant conference websites.

Finally, in order to help limit the spread of transmission, AILA will continue to actively encourage members, including conference participants, to take sensible precautions and practice good health habits by following CDC guidelines.

For the most current information about COVID-19, see the following resources:

- World Health Organization
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

As the impact of COVID-19 evolves, AILA will continue to communicate updates to members. If you have any questions or need assistance with your emergency preparedness plans, please contact us at executive@aila.org.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Johnson

**Executive Director** 

American Immigration Lawyers Association