

The Science of COVID-19

By Chuck White, VP of Regulatory Affairs

It seems that today it's Coronavirus all day, every day, and that has been particularly true at PHCC. Just to add some fact to the issue, here are some science elements from a [DHS Master Question List](#), plus others to consider. The Wuhan novel coronavirus is called SARS-CoV-2; the disease it causes is called COVID-19. SARS is an acronym for severe acute respiratory syndrome, and there are many variants of the SARS virus. [READ MORE](#)

COVID-19 Essential Services Documentation

By Chuck White, VP of Regulatory Affairs, and Mark Valentini, Director of Legislative Affairs

PHCC—National Association has filed a request with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to clarify its definition for workers that would be classified as providing essential services. DHS has issued a Memorandum that contains the following language pertaining to residential services in the Public Works section. [READ MORE](#)

Travel Spacing in Vehicles

By Chuck White, VP of Regulatory Affairs

Many contractors are wondering how to keep crews appropriately spaced when traveling together in work vehicles. That is a very good question. If social distancing requires a spacing of 6 feet, most vans or crew cabs would be hard pressed to accomplish that. OSHA does not have any direct guidance posted on this issue, but common sense would lead to a few choices.

- Take vehicles that can provide adequate spacing for social distancing.
- Travel in multiple vehicles.
- Wear appropriate PPE when travelling together.

Employers should bear in mind this quote from OSHA: "COVID-19 can be a Recordable Illness if a worker is infected as a result of performing their work-related duties." Certain conditions apply to that OSHA statement, but contractors should keep this in mind when considering alternatives.