

March 18, 2020

Kem R. Fleming, Director U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Disaster Assistance Field Operations Center East 101 Marietta Street NW, Suite 700 Atlanta, GA 30303-2725

Dear Mr. Fleming;

Under provisions Title 13 C.F.R. Part 123.3, I respectfully request that the Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) implement a Small Business Administrative declaration to provide assistance in the form of SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans to 72 counties following the incident identified as COVID-19 from January 31, 2020, and ongoing.

Surveys of businesses over the past several days, as well as inquiries into our Joint Incident Command, illustrate that the COVID-19 incident has had a significant impact on a variety of businesses within Wisconsin, most notably hospitality, event hosting and support, and small retail businesses dependent upon daily traffic. As a result, we have determined that the following businesses have experienced economic injury: Kobussen Buses Ltd., Country Kitchen Café, Common Man Tap & Table, Kugels Cheese Mart, and Earth Rider Brewery.

Direct economic loss is due to a decrease in customer sales and contracts brought about by canceled sporting and entertainment events, conferences, and any gatherings of 10 or more persons. The necessity of employees remotely working has placed a strain on businesses of all sizes. As a result of my emergency declaration, schools have been instructed to temporarily transition to online classes, the impact of which will surely be felt by small businesses that provide supportive services to the schools and students. Finally, restaurants, retail food outlets, and other similar establishments have been ordered to transition to carry out, delivery, curbside pick-up, and drive through only. Bars have been ordered to close.

The survey of these affected businesses determined the economic impact of their losses for the disaster period as compared to the same period in the preceding year. Based upon the survey results, I certify that at least five small businesses in the disaster area have suffered substantial economic injury as a result of the disaster and are in need of financial assistance not otherwise available on reasonable terms.

If you need additional information, please contact Robert Stoikes, Recovery Section Supervisor, Wisconsin Emergency Management at (608) 242-3226, robert.stoikes@wisconsin.gov.

Sincerely,

Tony Evers
Governor