

On April 1, 2020, the U.S. Department of Labor announced new action regarding how American workers and employers will benefit from the protections and relief offered by the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act and Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act, both part of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). The department's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) posted a temporary rule issuing regulations pursuant to this new law, effective today, April 1, 2020. For more information click here.

In this temporary rule, the Department:

- Issues rules relevant to the administration of the FFCRA's paid leave requirements.
- Provides direction for administration of the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act (EPSLA), which requires that certain employers provide up to 80 hours of paid sick leave to employees who need to take leave from work for certain specified reasons related to COVID-19. These reasons may include the following:
  - the employee or someone the employee is caring for is subject to a government quarantine order or has been advised by a health care provider to selfquarantine;
  - the employee is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and is seeking medical attention; or,
  - the employee is caring for his or her son or daughter whose school or place of care is closed or whose child care provider is unavailable for reasons related to COVID-19.
- Provides direction for the effective administration of the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act (EFMLEA), which requires that certain employers provide up to 10 weeks of paid, and 2 weeks unpaid, emergency family and medical leave to eligible employees if the employee is caring for his or her son or daughter whose school or place of care is closed or whose child care provider is unavailable for reasons related to COVID-19.

This action is intended to provide guidance to the regulated community as they implement the statutory requirements.

The temporary rule is effective from April 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

Contact Adam T. Boston or Brian O'Donnell for more information

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# **OUR COVID-19 TEAM**

## **Business & Contracts**

Kathleen M. Coss

(860) 240-1035 • kcoss@rrlawpc.com

Thomas R. Kasper

(860) 240-1084 • tkasper@rrlawpc.com

Cathryn A. Reynolds

(860) 240-1019 · creynolds@rrlawpc.com

### **Commercial Real Estate**

Louis J. Donofrio

(860) 240-1042 • Idonofrio@rrlawpc.com

Thomas R. Kasper

(860) 240-1084 • tkasper@rrlawpc.com

## **Employee Benefits & Compensation**

Douglas K. Knight

(860) 240-1028 · dknight@rrlawpc.com

### **Estate Planning & Trust Matters**

John R. Ivimey

(860) 240-1062 • jivimey@rrlawpc.com

Barbara A. Taylor

(860) 240-1033 • btaylor@rrlawpc.com

## Finance & Business Insolvency

Jon P. Newton

(860) 240-1090 • jnewton@rrlawpc.com

### **Government & Regulatory Investigations**

Thomas V. Daily

(860) 240-1067 • tdaily@rrlawpc.com

# Health Care Providers & Privacy

Adam Carter Rose

(860) 240-1065 • arose@rrlawpc.com

#### **HR & Employee Issues**

Adam T. Boston

(860) 240-1023 • aboston@rrlawpc.com

Brian O'Donnell

(860) 240-1012 · bodonnell@rrlawpc.com

## Trust & Wealth Management

David L. Sullivan, CTFA\*

(860) 240-1022 • dsullivan@rrlawpc.com

\*Mr. Sullivan is a Certified Trust Financial Advisor; he is not an attorney.