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# ALASKA AFL-CIO

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VINCE BELTRAMI  
Executive President



JAKE METCALFE  
Secretary / Treasurer

May 21, 2020

Alaska COVID-19 Response Unified Command:

Please consider representatives of Alaska's Organized Labor community as cooperating partners in your ongoing response.

State of Alaska outreach efforts thus far have included weekly conference calls with representatives of the Department of Labor and have functioned much like a cooperators' meeting. We applaud the efforts of Kate Sheehan and other staff who have thus far served as liaisons to the state employed bargaining units.

In efforts to best serve the workers and the public supported by their work, our union affiliates are requesting formalized recognition of the Bargaining Units representing these workers as cooperators to the incident management and response. In addition to representatives of the Department of Labor, our union affiliates are requesting support for those staff from the departments of Health & Social Services, Epidemiology; Administration; and others depending on their necessity to address emergent issues. It is unfair to expect the staff our affiliates have been meeting with to have all the answers, or to always know to whom to report the issues raised through our dialogue for the most expeditious address of those issues. By including organized labor, you are supporting your incident management efforts by adding valuable information to your situation assessment and planning which may otherwise be missed. You are also adding valuable resources to your information and compliance efforts.

On behalf of Alaska's workers, our union affiliates are requesting the following:

- Timely notification of any possibility of workers individual exposure, including time & place.
  - This is already communicated as a part of the State Epidemiology Team's plans.
  - State of Alaska notification of our workers within 24 hours upon identification of a positive test in their workplace which possibly exposed them.
  - Communication to workers that if they hear of a positive test in association with their facility/department/jobsite/etc., and have not been notified, that the team is secure that they were not at risk of exposure.
- Earliest practical testing of any worker identified for possible exposure through their jobsite.
- A State of Alaska Workplace Mitigation Plan<sup>1</sup> developed transparently and with our input.

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<sup>1</sup> As outlined in <https://covid19.alaska.gov/unified-command/protective-plans/> Guidance for Developing and Submitting Community/Workforce Protective Plans. Basic Required Elements of a Protective Plan:

Community/Workforce Protective Plans must address the following minimum required elements:

- Contact Information and Location(s)
- Screening of Personnel
- Self-Quarantine
- Protecting the Public
- Workplace Protective Measures
- Travel Plans and Procedures

- This should outline expectations for PPE, policies for testing, telework, etc.
- A way to ensure compliance with the plan / guidance on how to report noncompliance.
- Uniformity of application between and across departments and locations.
- Transparency, including an established mechanism to ensure that transparency.
- Establish hazard mitigation plans with worker involvement and input.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vince Beltrami". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Vince Beltrami, President  
Alaska AFL-CIO