



## Special COVID-19 Edition – April 27, 2020

[Online Version at FloridaBusiness.org](https://www.floridabusiness.org)

**VOLUSIA COUNTY TO HOST DAILY BRIEFINGS** – Volusia County Government will host briefings four times a week at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to provide the public with updated COVID-19 information. The briefings will begin today, Monday, April 27, and take place at 2 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The daily briefings will include updates from representatives of Volusia County Government as well as featured guests from local agencies. No EOC briefings are scheduled for Tuesdays because the County Council is receiving weekly briefings every Tuesday in meetings that are publicly accessible. The briefings at the EOC, 3825 Tiger Bay Road, Daytona Beach, are open to the media and will be [streamed live on the Volusia County Emergency Management Facebook page](#).

**CDC OFFERS GUIDANCE ON PREPARING YOUR SMALL BUSINESS FOR THE EFFECTS OF COVID-19** – The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has guidance for small business owners to protect their employees' health and safety in the workplace. [CDC's recommendations](#) include guidance on topics such as identifying a workplace coordinator for COVID-19 issues; examining policies for leave, telework and employee compensation; establishing flexible leave policies; and preparing business continuity and communication plans to account for significant absenteeism, supply chain disruptions, or other business operational changes among other topics.

**DAB IN LINE FOR \$21 MILLION IN COVID-19 RELIEF FUNDS** – With air travel down by more than 90% and revenue plummeting at airports across the country, Daytona Beach International Airport is in line to receive a financial boost — \$21 million in economic stimulus funds from the federal government. The money is coming from the CARES Act stimulus package and is designed to help keep airports in operation and financially able to continue serving the traveling public, while also keeping airport and aviation workers employed and airport credit ratings stable. The Volusia County Council unanimously paved the way for the airport to receive the funds by authorizing the county manager and county chair to sign the related documents and agreements. [Read the full release](#).

**GUIDELINES TO REOPEN COUNTRY** – The White House has published a document with a proposed phased approach, based on up-to-date data and readiness, that mitigates a risk of resurgence, protects the most vulnerable, and is implementable on a statewide or county-by-county basis at a governor's discretion. [View the document under Federal Resources on VolusiaBusinessResources.com](#).

**REPORT CAPTURES COVID-19 EFFECT ON ECONOMY** – Global consultancy KPMG has produced a chart book that tracks and models the economic impact of and likely recovery path from COVID-19. The insights provided are the product of timely data collection and relevant trends leading into the global pandemic. The report, called "A Bridge Past COVID-19," is available for [free download](#) from KMPG US.

**DEO UNVEILS COUNTY & INDUSTRY SPECIFIC DATA ON REEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE CLAIMS DASHBOARD** – The COVID-19 related Reemployment Assistance initial claims data by county, released last week by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, indicates 12,168 claims from Volusia County. The data reflects a stated labor force of 254,312 and an initial claim percentage of 4.8%. There were 463,309 claimants from the week ending March 7 to the week ending April 4 of which Volusia County's claims comprised 2.63%. When organized by major industry sector, the highest number of Volusia County claims were in Leisure and Hospitality (3,759). With the exception of the No Industry Given category (2,263), there were three other sectors with more than a thousand claims: Professional and Business Services (1,540); Education and Health Services (1,378); and Trade, Transportation and Utilities (1,319). Manufacturing sector claims amounted to 567. [View the dashboard](#).

**NEW U.S. CENSUS DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC IMPACT DASHBOARD** – The U.S. Census Bureau launched a [new dashboard website](#) that provides users with demographic risk factor variables along with economic data on 20 key industries impacted by the coronavirus. Each data set

**FEMA FACT SHEET ON ADDRESSING PPE NEED IN NON-HEALTHCARE SETTINGS** – This FEMA guidance summarizes how organizations should consider and manage their personal protective equipment (PPE) needs while ensuring the protection of workers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic response. [View the document under Other Resources on VolusiaBusinessResources.com](#).

**FREDDIE MAC EXTENDS MULTIFAMILY COVID-19 FORBEARANCE PROGRAM** – Freddie Mac has changed its [previously announced Multifamily COVID-19 forbearance program](#) in three ways to better align with the federally enacted Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The program initially allowed Freddie Mac's multifamily borrowers to defer loan payments for 90 days if they could show hardship and their lender's approval. The new deadline is the end of the year or the end of the federally declared emergency period, whichever occurs first. [Read more here](#). The agency also revised its eviction policy for borrowers entering forbearance, saying none of the borrowers' residents can be evicted, whether or not they can prove their nonpayment stems from COVID-19-related hardships. The third change is participating owners are required to waive late fees, penalties or other charges related to tenant nonpayment of rent during the forbearance period.

**NEWS ITEMS WANTED!** – Please send your business news items to [Joanne Magley](#). If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.