



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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# **Blue Collar Workforce Slammed Again by Governor's Order Keeping Them Off Safe Job Sites**

*Builders & Contractors to Governor Whitmer: "Let us get back to work"*

**LANSING, MI-** The Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan responded to Governor Gretchen Whitmer's announcement today that her refusal today to loosen her arbitrary restrictions locking an estimated 100,000-plus craft trade professionals off safe Michigan job sites means even more devastation for workers and families in an industry that has already implemented safety measures to effectively mitigate the spread of illness.

With social distancing and safety measures already implemented, the industry continues to urge the Governor no later than May 1 to lift her order locking them off the jobsite, and was stunned this afternoon by her continued refusal to loosen work restrictions.

"Michigan's construction workforce has followed the data, they've followed the science, and they've implemented best practices for healthy jobsites across the state, so blue collar workers can get back to work and get back to work safely," said Robert Clancy, owner of Robert Clancy Contracting in metro Detroit, and the Chair of the Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan Board of Directors. "Governor Whitmer's decision to lock blue collar workers off safe job sites every day means more devastated families, stalled projects, and a longer, more painful recovery."

On the few worksites thus far exempt from the Governor's work stoppage, builders have implemented safety measures and best practices, and prepared to immediately implement them on job sites statewide once they're allowed to return to work. These measures include but are not limited to:

- Maintaining social distancing on the job site (something that already typically happens on most building and construction sites);
- Holding meetings virtually and by telephone;
- Eliminating the use of tools by multiple workers;
- Placing proper controls on water delivery and dust collection systems;
- Reducing the number of individuals deemed "necessary" on site;
- Wearing proper gloves and eye protection at all times; and much more.

"Our construction workforce is ready to get back on the job, to put food on their families' tables, and to do it safely," said Jeff Wiggins, state Director for ABC Michigan. "Governor Whitmer's delay in allowing

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our industry's hardworking men and women to return to work continues to devastate Michigan's blue collar families."

*Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan is a statewide association serving Michigan's commercial and industrial construction sectors. Founded on the merit shop philosophy to provide equal opportunities to all contractors and all workers, ABC of Michigan works to help employer members develop people, win work, and deliver that work safely, ethically and profitably for the betterment of the communities in which ABC and its members work.*

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