

From: Taylor, Richele  
To: Patel, SwatiSwatiPatel@gov.sc.gov  
CC: Smith, AustinAustinSmith@gov.sc.gov  
Schimsa, RebeccaRebeccaSchimsa@gov.sc.gov  
Webb, BethBethWebb@gov.sc.gov  
Date: 10/5/2016 2:38:29 PM  
Subject: Re: Supporting Businesses

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Ok. Austin and I are both on. So far ok

Richele K Taylor  
Chief Legal Counsel  
Office of the Governor  
South Carolina  
Direct 803-734-8465

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 5, 2016, at 2:37 PM, Patel, Swati <SwatiPatel@gov.sc.gov> wrote:

FYI – NH is on standby if you need her to get on a call as well, but I told her you have it covered.

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From: Smith, Austin  
Sent: Wednesday, October 05, 2016 1:55 PM  
To: Schimsa, Rebecca  
Cc: Patel, Swati; Webb, Beth; Taylor, Richele  
Subject: Re: Supporting Businesses

That is my understanding from Commerce.

On Oct 5, 2016, at 1:44 PM, Schimsa, Rebecca <RebeccaSchimsa@gov.sc.gov> wrote:

To confirm—the new re-entry credentialing will be used for this event?

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From: Smith, Austin  
Sent: Wednesday, October 05, 2016 1:35 PM  
To: Schimsa, Rebecca  
Cc: Patel, Swati; Webb, Beth; Taylor, Richele  
Subject: Supporting Businesses

Supporting Businesses

We've received a lot of incoming from businesses, especially retailers, about accessing evacuated areas. In addition to seeking direction, they have all pledged their assistance in any necessary re-entry or recovery activities.

For example, Wal-Mart is working very hard to supply stores in evacuated areas with generators and supplies before the lane reversal makes this nearly impossible.

Commerce, as the lead agency for the Business and Industry Emergency Support Function (ESF-24), has been fielding similar questions via the SC Retail Association. Commerce and EMD have advised

vendors moving east will likely have no problems, but trying to get out will be very challenging during the evacuation.

The Retail Association, who has a formal support role under ESF-24, is advising members who provide critical goods and services to areas impacted by Hurricane Matthew that life safety issues trump all other concerns.

In the event a retailer remains open in support of evacuation efforts, the Retail Association is advising members to only rely on essential staff who voluntarily remain.

The fastest way for a community to recover from a major disaster is by helping local businesses return to normal operations as quickly as possible. To support that effort, Governor Haley signed into law a new post-disaster reentry certification program for businesses.

This program is brand new, so Commerce and EMD (the lead agencies for the new program) are getting a high volume of requests for new credentials during the preparation for Hurricane Matthew. To avoid a log jam and add some process expertise, the Governor requested additional staff from DEW who reported to the SEOC this afternoon. Should the volume of requests increase further, DOR staff are prepared to back up Commerce, EMD, and DEW staff.

To the extent credentialing breaks down or lane reversals create problems, we plan to work with individual retailers who will be critical to re-entry or recovery efforts to make sure they do not run afoul of law enforcement or get held up without justification.

We have also solicited input from businesses to ensure future executive actions account for business operations to get things back up and running smoothly. There will be a conference call with businesses representatives, Commerce, and our staff later this afternoon. Also, the SC Retail Association is sending over suggested language (based on their experience in other states) for inclusion in any potential executive orders governing re-entry.