



PRESS RELEASE

ST. JOHN'S, Antigua, March 18, 2020- As we continue to track the coronavirus pandemic, COVID-19, be assured that the welfare of employees and customers remains of utmost importance. As such, all members of the Antigua and Barbuda Bankers' Association have implemented pandemic preparedness procedures and strategies in line with the guidelines set out by our local authorities and the World Health Organization, to keep you safe. These procedures and strategies include enhanced sanitation measures at each member branch.

However, you too play an integral role in the containment of the novel COVID-19. Together, we can ensure each other's safety by adopting healthy hygiene practices and maintaining healthy social distances. To this end, we encourage you to reduce visits to and time spent in the Bank. Instead, make use of your Bank's alternative banking facilities such as:

- Online and mobile banking applications
 - View account history
 - Transfer between accounts
 - Pay credit cards
 - Pay utility bills
 - Perform Electronic Funds Transfers to local and regional banks
 - Perform international wire transfers
- ATMs
- Night Deposit facilities
- Drive-thru tellers

We also encourage you to reduce cash transactions as the virus can easily be spread when cash is circulated among customers and merchants. As an alternative, perform as many transactions as possible using your debit or credit card. We are also encouraging merchants to allow customers to swipe their own cards to minimize contact.

If you must visit your bank, be sure to make use of the hand sanitizer dispensers which have been placed at bank entrances and in customer areas. We ask for your understanding at this time as tellers may, from time to time, leave their stations to wash their hands, which is especially encouraged.

We also ask that you remember to follow the health and safety protocols outlined by the authorities and contact the COVID-19 hotline at 462-6843 or covid@msjmc.org, if you exhibit any of the following symptoms: fever and tiredness, a dry cough or difficulty breathing.

The Bankers' Association is committed to ensuring that that our customers receive efficient and quality service while the necessary steps are taken to protect the health and wellbeing of our staff and the general public. The Association also wishes to remind you that we all share the responsibility of limiting the spread of the coronavirus so let us all do our part to protect ourselves, our families and our country.

Michael Spencer
President
Antigua and Barbuda Bankers Association

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