



Date: March 20, 2020
From: American Fence Association Board of Directors
Tony Thornton, Executive Director, CFP, CAGOI, CAGSD

Re: The American Fence Association releases statement regarding Fence, Gate, Automation and Access Systems Businesses as Essential and Required Service Industry during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

PRESS RELEASE (Washington, DC, March 20, 2020)

During this time of growing concern and uncertainty regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic, the American Fence Association is stating the importance of fence, gate, automation and access systems as a necessity for the security of our nation's buildings, homes and facilities. AFA members' services are required to be kept fully operational during this unfortunate time. Services such as temporary and permanent fence, and gates installation and repair will be required to support the shutdown of plants, facilities and venues and continued services for repairs of electric gate openers, access controls systems and all related components will be critical during this COVID-19 Pandemic. It is crucial that these companies' employees and vehicles can perform services as required to maintain safety and security for our nation.

IMPORTANT FACTS TO RECOGNIZE AS AN INDUSTRY

- Priority must be made to maintain these venues' operations for our nation's First Responders to provide access for emergency services and personnel for these facilities. Many fence and electric gate system installations are integrated with life safety and fire safety equipment.
 - Fences, gate, automation and access systems that provide security and controlled access to facilities, venues, parking lots, garages and facilities will require services be maintained through professional AFA member fence and gate companies during this pandemic.
 - Fence, gate, automation and access system AFA member companies offer a variety of services that are not only beneficial, but more importantly required to maintain order, safety and security during this pandemic.
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