



Labor & Employment Issues Client Alert

Pitta LLP
For Clients
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**“We believe in the ideas of family, mutuality,
the sharing of benefits and burdens
for the good of all, feeling one another’s pain,
sharing one another’s blessing
recognizing that at the heart of the matter
we are bound to each other.”
-Mario M. Cuomo-**

NEW YORK CITY OFFICIALLY STARTS PHASE 2 OF NY FORWARD PLAN

Today, New York City entered into Phase 2 of the NY Forward Plan to reopen the economy.

Under Phase 2 the following non-essential businesses are permitted to reopen:

- Offices
- In-Store Retail
- Hair salons and barbershops (with limited capacity)
- Outdoor dining at restaurants
- Real estate industry (including firms, inspections, and in-person showings)
- Commercial building management, repair, cleaning and retail rental.

This is a link to the NY Forward Plan guidelines for Phase 2: <https://forward.ny.gov/phase-two-industries>. Mayor Bill de Blasio stated that New York City is ready to accommodate the approximately 150,000 to 300,000 New Yorkers that will return to work. On the first day of the reopening, trains and buses were clean and riders wore masks and tried to practice social distancing.

To accommodate, the influx of workers returning to their place of employment, many commercial buildings have mandated that all tenants wear face coverings when entering the building, limited to four persons the number allowed on elevators, and increased cleanings in the public areas.

This is a [link](#) to guidelines prepared jointly by The Real Estate Board of New York, 32BJ SEIU, the Realty Advisory Board, Local 94 International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL-CIO and the Building Owners & Managers Association of Greater New York for commercial buildings and tenants.

Under Phase 2 restaurants will be able to serve customers on sidewalks, in parking spaces and in backyards and patios which may help to raise revenue for the struggling industry. Restaurant revenue plummeted nearly 90% during the first four months of the year.

Mayor de Blasio stressed the importance of keeping a disciplined approach toward the pandemic that helped dramatically turn the tide for New York City which was the global epicenter of COVID-19 throughout April and May.

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