

## Press Release

# Akerman Launches Return to Work Resource Guide for Employers Following Shutdown Caused by COVID-19 Pandemic

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Firm Offers Library of Resources for Businesses Challenged with Transitioning Employees Back to the Workplace and Resuming Regular Operations

As U.S. businesses face daunting decisions while they return to regular operations, Akerman LLP, a top 100 U.S. law firm serving clients across the Americas, is helping them reintegrate their employees into the workplace and implement new policies and protocols set forth by federal, state and local authorities with the launch of the Akerman Return to Work Resource Guide. Offering a library of key reference materials and procedures, the Akerman Return to Work Resource Guide provides employers with best practices in facilitating a safe and orderly transition to a “new normal” in a COVID-19 era.

“Businesses of all sizes and industries are facing increasingly complicated decisions, following the abrupt stop to business operations nationally, as a result of the coronavirus pandemic,” said Beth Alcalde, who is a leader on the Akerman Return to Work team. “The Akerman Return to Work Resource Guide offers a growing online library of tailored resources for employers of all sizes and across all industries. Each resource is deliberately created to address the most critical aspects of resuming

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### Related People

Beth Alcalde  
Eric A. Gordon

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operations in a format that is efficient and cost-effective for their business needs.”

In addition to 24/7 live support from Akerman’s employer-focused Return to Work team, the Resource Guide includes a variety of tactical guidance, available for access through a personalized, secure online portal. Akerman’s resource library includes more than 60 downloadable documents, such as questionnaires, checklists, policies, and procedures to help provide direction, context, and clarity as businesses return to regular operations, including:

- Employee requests for ADA accommodations, letters addressing the need to return to work, and health screenings for employees and visitors
- Protocols for prevention of COVID-19 exposure, limitations of non-essential business travel policy, and employee temperature screenings policies
- Trainings for managers in the COVID-19 environment to be tailored to employer requirements, including in the areas of workplace privacy and security, employee benefit plan impacts, and union and non-union concerns
- A deeper dive into return to work issues, such as OSHA and workplace safety, special considerations relating to on-site medical clinics, and workplace configuration and scheduling consideration
- Contract considerations for vendors, including the purchase or implementation of on-site medical clinics, telehealth, IT services, benefit plan services, and payroll services

“As states begin to lift shelter-in-place orders, our labor and employment lawyers are helping business owners and executives navigate this uncertain and evolving situation,” said Eric Gordon, chair of Akerman’s Labor and Employment Practice Group. “From assisting with day-to-day counseling and manager training, to interpreting complex

governmental requirements, our lawyers are helping employers across all industries execute the necessary safeguards and provisions.”

The launch of the Akerman Return to Work Resource Guide comes at a time when the firm has been singled out by clients for its leading services and unfailing commitment to help during these unprecedented times. Akerman was named by BTI Consulting’s Mad Clientist listing as one of 37 Midsize Law Firms Punching Way Above Their Weight. Clients who participated in the Mad Clientist survey look to firms like Akerman “for a wide variety of risky, delicate, and thorny matters – including highly customized advice about reopening [business] and related issues.”

### **About Akerman**

Akerman LLP is a top 100 U.S. law firm recognized among the most forward thinking firms in the industry by *Financial Times*. Its more than 700 lawyers and business professionals collaborate with the world’s most successful enterprises and entrepreneurs to navigate change, seize opportunities, and help drive innovation and growth. Akerman is known for its results in middle market M&A and complex disputes, and for helping clients achieve their most important business objectives in the financial services, real estate and other dynamic sectors across the United States and Latin America.