

COVID-19: We Are All In It Together

These are unprecedented times through which our Company has successfully managed to prioritize the safety of our employees and our clients' needs. In late January and early February of this year, we began responding to concerns about the developments in China, and re-tested all of our remote capabilities to ensure that operations would function seamlessly should we need to transition our staff to working remotely. In early March, to limit the potential impact of an outbreak across our teams, we initiated a requirement for certain business functions to work remotely. Ultimately, over the weekend of the 14th March, we engaged our business continuity plans, encouraging all employees to work remotely. Since that time, as a group we have continued to execute much of our day-to-day routines successfully and seamlessly.

Despite these unusual circumstances, the team at Guardian and its affiliated companies, through our use of many virtual tools, have very much maintained a "business as usual" environment. Leadership teams are meeting regularly to receive updates on any continuity issues and are operating with an expectation that remote work practices likely will be the norm for an extended period. We continue to maintain constant communication with our clients, industry partners, regulatory bodies, boards of directors and shareholders to ensure all stakeholders are receiving timely and informed feedback.

One of our hallmarks at Guardian is our dedication to stability. I am often quoted as saying that stability includes our people, clients and financial well-being. Guardian's ability to deliver this stability is very much a result of our focus on building a quality, strong financial balance sheet that allows us to weather various business cycles over time. The current crisis is one of the worst economic crises that the world has witnessed in the last century. However, with our unique position owing to a substantial and liquid balance sheet, we have great confidence in our ability to continue to offer stability to our employees and clients.

If anyone has any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact us, as our senior leadership and management is readily available to field your questions. If you need to contact me, please do not hesitate to email me at gmavroudis@guardiancapital.com.

It is important for everyone to know, wherever you may live, that we are all in this together and that this crisis will pass with time. In the meantime, we all need to accept the short-term sacrifice of some basic routines for the betterment of all. As medieval as it may seem that our best treatment for fighting this virus is for large parts of our society to remain and isolate at home, we cannot ignore that this approach has been the most effective way to limit a surge in the number of cases so that critical cases do not overwhelm the health care systems.

Our thoughts go out to those who have lost loved ones through this virus and to those who are fighting hard to recover. We are extremely grateful and thankful from the bottom of our hearts for the thousands of front-line health care workers who are the daily heroes selflessly putting themselves in harm's way to assist those in need. Stay positive, adhere to our social distancing practices and know this will pass.

Wishing everyone to be safe and have continued good health.

Warmest regards,

George Mavroudis
President and Chief Executive Officer
Guardian Capital Group

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