Office of the Governor
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

P.O. Box 94004
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-9004
(225) 342-7015
GOV.LA.GOV

March 16, 2020

Ms. Tanya Garfield, Director
Field Operations Center – West
U.S. Small Business Administration
6501 Sylvan Road
Citrus Heights, CA 95610

Dear Ms. Garfield,

Under provisions of 13 C.F.R. Part 123.3, I respectfully request that the Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) implement a Small Business Administrative declaration to provide assistance in the form of SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans for the Louisiana parishes of Orleans and Jefferson as a result of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) worldwide pandemic. The effects of COVID-19 began on January 31, 2020 and have caused economic impacts because of the cancellation of major events, loss of walk-in customers, depletion of stock from suppliers and client cancellations. Businesses across the State have already experienced significant economic losses and are anticipated to continue to lose revenue due to this pandemic. I fully expect to expand this request to include all other parishes as the economic injury continues to spread through the state.

A survey of the affected businesses was conducted to determine the economic impact of their losses. Based upon these surveys, I certify that at least five small businesses in the disaster area have suffered substantial economic injury as a result of the disaster and are in need of financial assistance not otherwise available on reasonable terms.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. If you have any questions about this, please contact James B. Waskom, Director, Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness at (225) 925-7345.

Sincerely,

John Bel Edwards
Governor

Enclosure: SBA Economic Injury Worksheet
cc: nicole.lizama@sba.gov
johan.curtiss@sba.gov
carl.gaspari@sba.gov
jennifer.sett@sba.gov
donna.gross@sba.gov