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The Monitoring Association Takes the Lead in Securing Essential Status for Electronic Security, Fire, Monitoring and Life Safety Services

New DHS CISA Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce Notice Explicitly Mentions the Security Industry

March 31, 2020, McLean, VA – As COVID-19 began to spread rapidly across the United States weeks ago, The Monitoring Association (TMA) proactively initiated communications with federal authorities to inform key decision makers as to the critical role played by electronic security, fire, monitoring and life safety services and professionals in an emergency situation, such as the one our nation is facing. TMA reached out to the Electronic Security Association (ESA) and the Security Industry Association (SIA) and invited each security industry organization to join in the vital appeal. On March 28, the director of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency released a notice explicitly mentioning the security industry.

The newest DHS CISA Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce [[available in full at tma.us](#)] **explicitly mentions** our industry in two locations (below).

- **LAW ENFORCEMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, AND OTHER FIRST RESPONDERS (Page 6)**
 - Workers – including contracted vendors -- who maintain, manufacture, or supply equipment and services supporting law enforcement emergency service and response operations (to **include electronic security and life safety security personnel**).
- **COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (Page 11)**
 - Communications: **Workers providing electronic security, fire, monitoring and life safety services**, and to ensure physical security, cleanliness and safety of facilities and personnel, including temporary licensing waivers for security personnel to work in other States of Municipalities.

While the list is advisory in nature and it is not, nor should it be considered, a federal directive or standard, many states are relying on this list when determining who is essential. Being explicitly mentioned makes it easier to make the case for our industry.

Review this document and a vast, curated [repository of reference materials](#) on the [TMA website](#) 24/7.

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About The Monitoring Association

The Monitoring Association (TMA) is an internationally-recognized non-profit trade association that represents professional monitoring companies, security systems integrators, and providers of products and services to the industry. TMA is dedicated to the advancement of the professional monitoring industry through education, advocacy, standards, and public safety relationships. Learn more at <https://tma.us/about-tma/>.