



**April 3, 2020**

**State Says Showings Can Only be Conducted Online**

**To: HGAR Members:**

Last evening, an official with Empire State Development Corp. in a clarification of the designation of real estate as an essential industry, stated that all showings must be conducted virtually or online in order to prevent the spread of the Novel Coronavirus.

Matthew Gordon, executive vice president, public affairs and communications for ESD, stated, "Being an 'essential' industry does not mean business as usual—business can only be conducted if social distancing and other public health protocols are followed and all must be doing everything they can to help stop the spread. For real estate, that means brokers can only transact business in their offices or show properties virtually, and anything else is off limits."

He added that appraisers/inspectors are able to visit properties for inspection. Brokers can oversee transactions/signings at their offices while following social distancing protocols.

Remember to join us on Facebook this morning at 10 for a live update and answers to questions.

**<https://www.facebook.com/HGAR.NY/>**

**In the meantime, please stay safe and be well during these trying times.**

**Sincerely,**

**Richard Haggerty, HGAR CEO**

**Gail Fattizzi, HGAR President**