Superintendencia de Bancos de Panamá

TRANSLATION

March 16, 2020
Circular N° SBP-DPC-FINAN-0043-2020

General Manager

Subject: Attention to Preventive Measures for COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Dear General Manager:

Hereby and taking into consideration the potential effects on the regular operations of the finance company system in the face of possible massive propagation scenarios related to COVID-19, as is being experienced in other countries, the Superintendency urges the system to adopt several measures. In first instance, attend and stay informed of the prevention and control measures issued by the Ministry of Health (MINSA, for its acronym in Spanish) and the National Government related to "COVID-19, commonly referred to as Coronavirus" in the territory of the Republic of Panama. Second, to reiterate the message that MINSA is the only official entity authorized in Panama to disclose information to the population on the "Coronavirus." In this regard, it is necessary to keep calm, prudence and good judgment that must be followed in this situation.

On the other hand, we deem this situation is appropriate for your entity to review the business continuity plans for your staff and customers.

Additionally, please remember that the Ministry of Health has made available a 24/7 hotline (169) to clarify doubts and guide people who, at some point, have had contact with people who come from countries at risk due to Coronavirus or have respiratory distress symptoms, such as (cough or fever).

The Superintendency will be attentive to the development of these events and will keep this, and any other communication channel, open for whatever is required.

Best regards,

Amauri A. Castillo
Superintendent

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