

May 21, 2020

Governor Philip Murphy

State Capitol

Trenton, New Jersey

Dear Governor Murphy:

We, the undersigned, are writing to you to urge you to prioritize the opening of small businesses in Cape May County.

We know that local and county leaders have written to you to get your support for opening hotels, motels and other lodgings, restaurants, bars, and retail shops starting June 1st and we agree with their sense of urgency to open our county and our largely-seasonal economy.

While we understand the concern expressed regarding the influx of visitors and limited healthcare facilities, we know that it is essential to reach a balance between the health of our community and our economy. We are confident that the small businesses in our area are capable of following the health and safety guidelines set forth by the CDC recommendations that have enabled big box stores to successfully remain open throughout the pandemic. We know we can do this because our livelihoods depend on it. We need to open so that the businesses that we have worked hard to build survive.

We're ready, willing, and enthusiastic to open our small businesses now. Our small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and it is time for us to continue serving our community. We are deeply committed to following all guidelines provided to ensure the health and safety of both our employees and customers. We are eager to adjust to the "new normal" so that we can open our doors and see our small businesses thrive once again.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Meghan Protasi, Cape May

William Lauth, Stone Harbor

Ann Lauth, Stone Harbor

Thomas Belasco, West Cape May

Myra Belasco, West Cape May

Jeff Wallace, Cape May Court House

Courtney Wallace, Cape May Court House

Holly Steger, West Cape May

Steven Steger, West Cape May

Margaret Steger, Lower Township

Steven R. Steger, Lower Township

Sean Steger, Lower Township

Kevin Flad, Lower Township

Carol Menz, Cape May

Duck Menz, Cape May

Julie Menz, Cape May

Tai Menz, Cape May

Ami Menz, West Cape May

Aaron Reeves, West Cape May

Sandra Ragonese, Cape May

Andrew Scrivani, Sea Isle City

Brigid Reichle, Cape May

Wayne Reichle, Cape May

Jeff Stewart, Erma

Leeann Stewart, Erma

Jeff Stewart Sr, North Cape May

Mary Stewart, North Cape May

Stephen Wolf, Villas

Dawn DeMayo, Cape May

John DeMayo, Cape May

Kristine Wiechert, Cape May

James H Kelly, Cape May

Megan Nesbitt, Cape May

Corinne Rietheimer, Cape May

Brandon Stickle, Cape May

Ashley Peoples, Cape May

Emily DeScala, Cape May

John Mckeown, Cape May

Louis DeScala, Lower Township

Cindy DeScala, Lower Township

Ben DeScala, Lower Township

Heather Seaman, Cape May

Bob Lubberman, Lower Township

Maria Nelson, Lower Township

Kelly Purcell, Stone Harbor

Ryan Protasi, Cape May

Marisa Carchidi, Cape May

Kristel Fillmore, North Wildwood

Vickie Melograno, Cape May Point

Liz Unruh, Lower Township

Jim Mendicino, Cape May

James Walls, Cape May

Christina Walls, Cape May

Ethan Noss, Cape May

Jillian O'Hara-Noss, Cape May

Ryan Platzer, Cape May

Samantha Platzer, Cape May

Thomas OHara, Cape May

Kaitlin OHara, Cape May

Casey OHara, Avalon

Patrick OHara, Ocean City

Chris OHara, Ocean City

Tom OHara Sr, Cape May

Nancy OHara, Cape May

Gregory Melograno, Cape May Point

Seaera Tosto, Villas

Allyson O'Shea, Cape May

James Harvey V, Cape May

Sargent O'Shea, Cape May

Barbara O'Shea, Cape May

Jimmy Lapalucci, North Cape May

Mark Platzer, Cape May

Kathleen Platzer, Cape May

Robert Spalding, Cape May

Christine Centofanti Cape May

Laura Olson, Cape May Court House

Dan Olson, Cape May Court House

Jeff Martin, Lower Township

Michael Mader, Lower Township

Lia Antonicello, Cape May

Kyle Kulkowitz, Cape May

Christine Clement RN, Cape May Court House

Shannon Vail-Massie, Wildwood Crest

Jen Dailey, Stone Harbor

Talia McCullen, Cape May

Katy OHara, Cape May

Marielise Hays, Cape May

Joseph A Weaver, Cape May Court House

John Centofanti, Cape May

Michael Slawek, Cape May

Amber Slawek, Cape May

Paula Slawek, Cape May

Dr. Michael Slawek, Cape May

Barbara Slawek, Cape May

Dr Stephen Slawek, Cape May

Jennifer Diamond, NYC

Debbie Kelly, Cape May

James Kelly, Cape May

Lauren Taylor, Lower Township

Dagmer and Russell Chew, Cape May

Janice Conwell, West Cape May

John Schatz , Cape May

Hrabrina Chineva - Schatz, Cape May

Denise Moore, North Cape May

Craig Needles, North Cape May

Frances Jiampetti, North Cape May

Penny Graham, North Cape May

Cohwen Allen, Cape May Court House

Jennifer Allen, Cape May Court House

Jacob Allen, Cape May Court House

Kristy Victor, Villas

James Ridgway, Lower Township

Patti Goyette, Villas

Erica Young, Cape May

Beth Eastman, Cape May

Kevin Kelly, North Wildwood

Jenya Kelly, North Wildwood

Katelyn Fernandi, North Cape May

Susan Kennedy Burgos, Cape May

Celeste McKeefery, North Cape May

Whitney Poppert, North Cape May

John Poppert, North Cape May

Jen Pron, North Cape May

Arron Rothwell, North Cape May

Robert Jesse Lambert, Cape May Court House

Leigha Lambert, Cape May Court House

Kathleen Barto, Cape May

Katelyn Woodrow, Cape May

David W. Matagiese, Cape May

Doug Caffrey, Cape May

William Bezaire, Cape May

Porfirio Pabon, North Cape May

Deborah Pabon, North Cape May

Kimberly Gilbert, Cape May

George Jampetti, North Cape May

Justin Sadler, Cape May Beach

Crystal Axelrod, Cape May Beach

Chuck & Barbara McPherson, Cape May

John Cooke, Cape May

Ashleigh Hargis, Lower Township

Joshua Williams, Lower Township

Lienna Geylani, Lower Township

Jessica Cicchitti, Cape May

Jim Kleb Jr., Cape May

Jennifer Negro, Cape May

Paul Negro , Cape May

Steven Miller, Cape May Point

Caroline Miller, Cape May Point

Carolinn Pocher Woody, Cape May

Jennifer Tozer, Cape May

Maureen Behrens, North Cape May

Carl Behrens, North Cape May

Amy Luce, Cape May

Stephen Gatier, Cape May



John Horvath, Cape May

Judy Horvath, Cape May

Hope Bennung Perry, North Cape May

Ken Perry North Cape May

Tom Zimmer, Cape May

Jeff Reichle, Cape May

Dorothy Reichle, Cape May

Karen Lauth, Stone Harbor

Anna Cozzone , Cape May

Kallie Leonik, Cape May Court House

Kate Monzo, Lower Township

Megan Weatherby, Lower Township

William Weatherby, Lower Township

Patricia LaBree, Lower Township

Robert Hunter Harvey, Egg Harbor Twp.

Audrey Snow, Cape May

Katie Crecca, Lower Township

Hamilton Wilde, West Cape May

Barbara Wilde, West Cape May

Joseph Bray, West Cape May

Mary Bray, West Cape May

Richard V. Wilde III, West Cape May

Richard V. Wilde IV, West Cape May

Steven Wilson, Lower Township

Donna Protasi , North Cape May

Gwen Finley, Cape May

Mark Bednar, Cape May

Eric Bednar, Cape May

Michael Finley, Cape May

Carol King Hood, Cape May Point

Ned Hood, Cape May Point

Rachel Sandman, Lower Township

Miles Kline, Lower Township

Giacomo Antonicello West Cape May

Seth Antonicello West Cape May

Giacomo Jr Antonicello West Cape May

Jennifer Antonicello West Cape May

Polly Pollock-Bell, Lower Township

Marcus Karavan, Wildwood Crest

Maggie Day, Stone Harbor

Tom Tice, Stone Harbor

John Day, Stone Harbor

Barry Day, Stone Harbor

Maggie Hull, Cape May Court House

Michael Velli, Villas

Joanne Horn, Lower Township

Kate Emerson, Cape May

Emily Whittle, Cape May Courthouse

Samantha Milder, Lower Township

Diane Hooyman, North Cape May, NJ

Pat Watson, Lower Township

Joseph R. Kalbach V, West Wildwood

Bob Belansen Jr, Wildwood Crest

Bob Belansen Sr, Cape May

Vera Belansen, Cape May

John Belansen, Cape May

Pam Belansen, Cape May

Anne Reagan, Cape May

Rosie Price Cape May

Heather Messick, Villas

Thomas Cassidy Jr, Villas