

TO: Steven Gustafson, State Trade and Rapid Response Coordinator
REACT Program, MSC 229
107 E. Madison St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-4137
Email: WARNnotices@deo.myflorida.com

Lesley Miller, Jr.
Chairman, Hillsborough County Board of Commissioners
601 E. Kennedy Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33602

Kenneth L. Jones, MBA Manager
Industry Strategic Initiatives
Hillsborough County Economic Development County Center
601 E. Kennedy Blvd., 20th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602
Email: gfluke@dew.sc.gov

Mayor Jane Castor
City of Isle of Palms
Tampa Municipal Office Building
306 E. Jackson Street
Tampa, FL 33602

FROM: Ruth Benjamin, General Manager

DATE: October 2, 2020

VIA: Electronic Mail and U.S. Mail

SUBJECT: WARN Act Notice

I am writing on behalf of Hyatt Corporation (“Hyatt”) with respect to the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay (the “Hotel”), at 2900 Bayport Drive Tampa, FL 33607. This is an amendment to the WARN notice previously sent to your Agency.

The COVID-19 pandemic initially prompted numerous restrictions on travel and group meetings that resulted in a drop in our business. As a business that caters to global travelers and hosts large events around the world, this pandemic impacts us immensely. Due to this crisis, employees at the Hotel have been impacted by temporary layoffs, beginning on June 30, 2020.

We were hopeful that the restrictions and associated loss in revenue would be temporary. Since that time, it has recently become apparent that there will be longer-term revenue impacts as a result of the continued spread of the virus and recent surge of confirmed infections, extensions of various government mandates and “mass gathering” orders, cancellation of conferences and events, and the prolonged decline in domestic and international travel, all of which have resulted in the sudden and unexpected effective shutdown of much of our business.

While there are encouraging signs that our economy can begin to reopen in some areas, it has now become clear that the demand for travel, events, and hospitality services will take substantially longer to resume than previously anticipated. With likely on-going social distancing until a reliable COVID-19 vaccine or treatment becomes available, we cannot predict when our way of doing business will return to “normal.”

With such a significant reduction in our business in a rapidly evolving situation, we have to make painful choices that would have seemed unthinkable just a short time ago. The reality is we need to take further action to support the long-term operation of the company in a completely new operating environment.

We initially anticipated that employee layoffs at the Hotel would be temporary. Due to the sudden, dramatic, and unforeseeable additional impact of this pandemic on our business that is outside of our control, unfortunately, we must now engage in some employee separations that are expected to be permanent. This is a partial closure; not all employees at the Hotel will be impacted.

The affected employees at the Hotel are not represented by any union and do not have any bumping rights.

Enclosed is a listing of the job titles of the positions affected, the number of affected employees in each job classification, and the schedule of anticipated separations.

We regret that we were not able to provide advance notice of this action. Due to the impacts of COVID-19, we are providing this information at the earliest practicable time based on current business information.

Please contact me at 813-207-6705 or at ruth.benjamin@hyatt.com if you have any questions about this notice.

RUTH M. BENJAMIN
General Manager

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Attachment A – Employees Affected by Permanent Separations

JOB TITLE	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AFFECTED	SEPARATION DATE(S)
Administrative Assistant	1	10/9/2020
Bartender	2	10/9/2020
Cook 2	1	10/9/2020
Cook 4	1	10/9/2020
Chef de Cuisine	1	10/9/2020
Ordertaker	1	10/9/2020
Server Assistant	1	10/9/2020
Server-Beverage	2	10/9/2020
Server-Room Service	1	10/9/2020