



Dear GOBA Member(s):

It's no secret that the past month has provided an overwhelming uncertain feeling within our nation, families and our industry. During this time, GOBA, along with our partners at the Florida Homebuilders Association (FHBA) and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) have been busy working hard on the home building's behalf, doing everything we can to support the industry during these difficult times.

I wanted to take this opportunity to provide you with a brief summary of some of the quick actions and results achieved:

- On March 20<sup>th</sup>, anticipating the local governments to potentially shutdown our region relating to COVID-19, GOBA, in an urgent move, sent letters to elected officials in all major jurisdictions, including Orange, Osceola, and Seminole County, advocating the homebuilding industry be designated an essential business/service during any stay at home order. GOBA also encouraged builder members to send communications as well. In conjunction, FHBA sent similar letters to the Governor's office as there was considerable talks of a Statewide shutdown order.
- On March 24<sup>th</sup>, Orange County announced a stay at home order. Home construction was deemed an essential/business service and able to continue. GOBA also sought and obtained verification from the Orange County Attorneys' Office that Builder sales offices and sales by appointment could continue as well.
- On March 25<sup>th</sup>, following Orange County's lead, Osceola County announced a stay at home order. Under the Order, home construction was deemed an essential/business service and able to continue. GOBA also sought and obtained verification from Osceola that sales offices and sales by appointment could continue as well.
- On March 28<sup>th</sup>, in a critical win for NAHB and all members, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) designated construction of single-family and multi-family as an essential infrastructure business.
- Since mid-March, GOBA maintained daily communication with building officials and building departments to ensure operations continue "business as normal". On March 30<sup>th</sup>, GOBA held a webinar with central Florida building officials to discuss the latest building department operations and to answer questions. The webinar had 7 panelist and was attended by over 400 people.

- On April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Governor announced a statewide safer at home order through April 30<sup>th</sup>. The Order utilized and incorporated Homeland Security guidelines regarding essential business/services. Thanks to the lobbying of FHBA and quick efforts from NAHB just days prior, home construction was deemed essential under the Governor's statewide Order and could continue.
- On April 6<sup>th</sup>, GOBA held a webinar for members with a panel of experts discussing the recently passed CARES Act and how businesses can apply for and access small business funds, loans and other assistance under the ACT.
- Since the start of the crisis, GOBA has initiated a COVID-19 Resource guide on [greaterorlandoba.com](http://greaterorlandoba.com) for continual updates to building department procedures, recorded national and local webinars, employee travel letter templates, newly implemented OSHA guidelines, jobsite safety sign templates and more.

These are only but a few of the swift actions taken and results obtained over the last month. We at GOBA continue to work hard on your behalf so that the industry can keep working and powering our local economy in these difficult and unprecedented times.

GOBA remains a **STRONG** organization and is working diligently for YOU!

Our Officers, Board and Staff wish you well and are here if you have any questions – we greatly appreciate your continued support in our Association and the homebuilding industry.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chassity Vega". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Chassity Vega,  
GOBA CEO