## CHTA LIVE RESILIENCE SERIES

### **Presenters**

**Marlon Hill, Esq.**, Hamilton, Miller & Birthisel, LLP

### Nicola Madden-Greig,

Group Director of Marketing & Sales, Courtleigh Hospitality Group

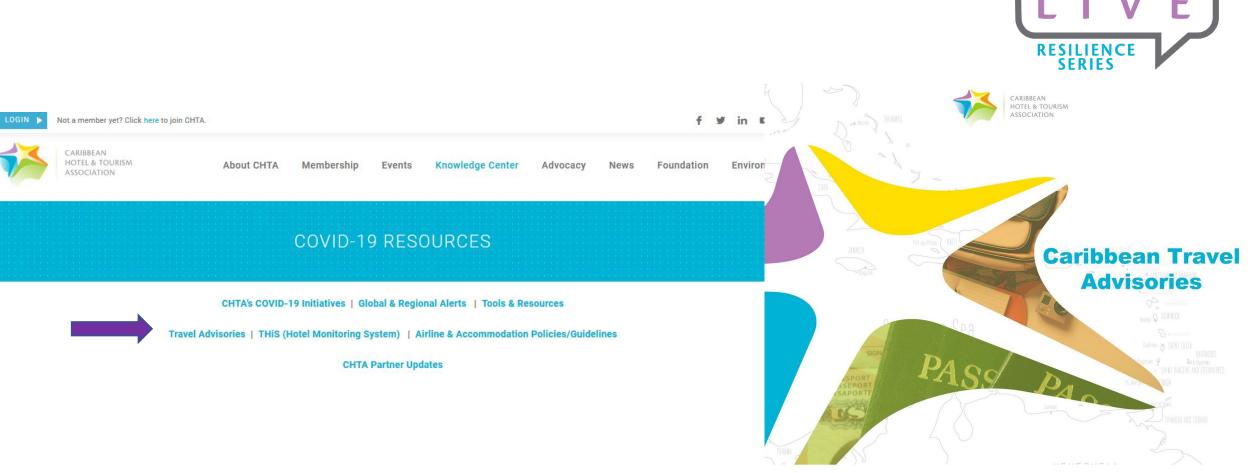
## Risk Management: Liability Waivers in a COVID-19 World

Thursday, July 23, 2020 2:00-3:15pm et #CHTALive



Larry Basham, General Counsel & COO, Elite Island Resorts





## **CHTA COVID-19 Resource Center**

www.caribbeanhotelandtourism.com/covid19/



**REOPENING OF CARIBBEAN TOURISM & TRAVEL** 

Safely Resuming Business Operations and Restoring Caribbean Tourism in 2020 and Beyond

**Guidelines and Checklists** 

## Guidelines & Checklists for Reopening Caribbean Tourism & Travel



**Ground Transportation** 

**Accommodations** 



**F&B** Operations

**Sites & Attractions** 



CARIBBEAN HOTEL & TOURISM ASSOCIATION





RESILIENCE SERIES

### Available for download at

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## **CHTA Strategic Partners**













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CHTA Travel Protection Plan www.caribbeanhotelandtourism.com



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## TITLE: "Risk Management: Liability Waivers in a COVID-19 World"

A HOTELIERS PERSPECTIVE NICOLA MADDEN-GREIG:



GROUP DIRECTOR OF MARKETING & SALES:

# FOUR MAIN PERSPECTIVES

- 1. GUEST
- 2. TEAM MEMBERS
- 3. 3<sup>RD</sup> PARTY SUPPLIERS
- 4. TOUR OPERATORS/TRAVEL AGENTS
- 5. **REGULATORS**





# GUEST

### 1. DIRECT BOOKINGS

### - Reservation Forms

- Booking Confirmation
- Website and Social Media

### 2. ADVANCED CHECK-IN

- Registration Forms

### 3. PROTOCOLS

4. ON PROPERTY COMMUNICATION – SIGNAGE ETC.

5. GROUPS AND EVENTS

6. CORPORATE CLIENTS/BOOKERS – BUSINESS TRAVELERS



### We Care For You!

#### Dear guests,

Our mission to provide the highest level of hospitality and care for guests has always been important to us. In light of the Covid-19 threat we have intensified our efforts to provide an even safer and cleaner environment for our guests and colleagues. We remain committed to using our best efforts to uphold the highest standards of cleanliness, making sure you feel comfortable.

At this time, we sympathize with persons who have been affected by this unfortunate event and we appreciate the government, healthcare workers and local communities who have gone above and beyond to contain the spread of the coronavirus. We have also been working assiduously to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and implement strategies that will assist in safeguarding our team members and guests.



COURTLEIGH HOSPITALITY GROUP





Holiday Inn Resort Advanced Check-In - Saved

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### Holiday Inn Resort Advanced Check-In

Welcome to the advanced registration platform for Holiday Inn Resort, Montego Bay- All-Inclusive. This form must be completed and submitted at least 48 hours prior to your intended arrival date. The completion of this form will fast track your check-in process and allow for social distancing. Please note each room booked a separate registration form must be completed. The names and personal details of the intended persons in each room must be entered individually.

For more information on our Covid-19 Protocols, please go to: https://www.caribbeanhi.com/our-resort/covid19

* Required		
Registration Form		
1. Flight Number		
Enter your answer		
2. Estimated Arrival Time		
Enter your answer		

### **REGISTRATION FORMS: ONLINE AND** MANUAL

Questions	Responses 33				
Select your answer 🗸 🗸					
18. Company Name/Group					
Enter your answer					
19. Purpose of Visit * Select your answer					
20. How many times have you stayed with us before *					
The value must be a number					
21. Special Requests Subject to Availability					

Enter your answer

#### 22. Covid OPT-OUT

"Opt out" of daily housekeeping, in which case we will be happy to provide "touchless" delivery of fresh towels and linens to your room door

"Opt out" of Turndown Service, where applicable (based on room category booked)

No Daily Housekeeping

No Turn Down Service



-If for any reason you may feel unwell please isolate yourself in your room, and contact us by phone, dialing 0 and ask for the Duty Manager, as soon as possible.

#### Take it Easy:

We encourage you to:

- Rest and avoid over-exertion
- Drink enough water
- Avoid smoking and smoky areas

#### We're here for you!

We will ensure that we provide the highest level of hospitality that you deserve and will take appropriate measures to ensure continued service.

#### Covid-19 Warning:

Please note we have implemented enhanced health and safety measures at our properties for you, other guests, and team members. All visitors and guests must follow all posted and written instructions while on property. An inherent risk of exposure to Covid-19 exists in any and all spaces where people are present. Covid-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to severe illness and death. According to the World Health Organization, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and The Ministry of Health and Wellness, senior citizens and persons with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable. By visiting and/or staying at our properties, you voluntarily assume any and all risks related to exposure to Covid-19.

The Courtleigh Hospitality Group: Holiday Inn Resort, Montego Bay. Last updated: June 3, 2020

Read More....Jamaica Tourism Protocols https://www.tpdco.org/covid-19healthprotocols/

CONTACT & LOCATION ABOUT US TERMS & CONDITIONS PRIVACY POLICY NOTICE OF ACCESSIBILITY DIGITAL MEDIA

#### **DURING YOUR STAY**

While on property we ask that you kindly observe both the hotel and Ministry of Health & Wellness protocols at all times.

#### Wash Up:

- Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

#### Mask Up:

- While in ALL public areas in the hotel, you will be required to wear a mask at all times. If you do not have a mask kindly use some other form of covering over your nose and mouth such as a scarf or handkerchief. If you need to buy a mask, they are available in the hotel Gift Shop.
- Enjoy the "mask" experience and take some cool "selfies" while on property.



#### **Travel Safe:**

- If going off property, please continue to wear your mask
- If travelling in a public vehicle sanitize the seat and the surrounding area.
- Continue to take general precautions and avoid large crowds and close spaces.



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COURTLEIGH HOSPITALITY GROUP

### **DURING YOUR STAY CONT'D**

While on property we ask that you kindly observe both the hotel and Ministry of Health & Wellness protocols at all times.

#### No Close Up

- Social distancing protocols are in place at the hotel and across the island, and this may require staggered meal periods. Kindly observe a minimum of 6 feet between individuals (except for families travelling together.)
- This distance will be monitored especially in the areas where there may be a greater concentration of people, such as restaurants, front desk area, swimming pools, or other outdoor areas. The distance between restaurant chairs, bar chairs, loungers and tables, will be increased, and marks will be placed indicating the distance to be kept.
- We encourage the use of reservations for different services.
   This will be valid for restaurants as well as for the gym, children's areas, recreational facilities, among others.



#### Keeping a Check:

 Temperature checks will be carried out on check-in and randomly by our team during your stay. This is to protect everyone and identify any early symptoms. If you exhibit an elevated temperature you will be required to self-isolate in-room until the Ministry of Health personal are alerted and advise next steps.

#### Look Out, Stay Safe:

- Avoid close contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness such as coughing, sneezing and/or runny nose
- If you observe anyone showing these symptoms kindly advise the Duty Manager, who will follow up on the matter imediately.
- If for any reason you may feel unwell please isolate yourself in your room, and contact us by phone, dialing 0 and ask for the Duty Manager, as soon as possible.

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"THE DISASTER NEX MANAGEMENT (ENFORCEMENT MEASURES) (NO. 2) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) ORDER, 2020



5 each at 8.5" x 11" 5 each at 5.5" x 6" (Tent)





YOUR PATIENCE



WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION



## COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

The Hotel Group has a Covid-19 Response team that was activated in February to monitor and address on-going changes to operational and other procedures following industry best practices.



#### SANITATION TRAINING

Our team members have received COVID-19 safety and sanitation protocols training from the Ministry of Health and Wellness including general sanitation guidelines and proper use of personal protective equipment.

#### SANITATION ENHANCEMENTS:

Please see some of the enhanced measures we have already implemented:

#### General:

- Frequency of cleaning and disinfecting of all public spaces has been increased with special attention paid to "high-touch" areas;
   e.g.: door handles, elevator buttons, railings, public bathrooms, lobby furniture, stairwells, etc.
- Touch-free greeting and welcoming protocol adopted for all team members when interacting with guests.

- Temperature checks are being administered to all guests upon check-in and all team members on arriving to work. Guests and Team members may also be subject to additional temperature checks performed at random.
- New signs have been posted reminding guests and team members of proper hand washing methods and social distancing guidelines.
- Hand Sanitizing stations have been installed in all public areas;
   e.g.;elevators, lobby, gift shops, business center etc.
- Trash bins have been placed outside each public bathroom for guests and team members to properly dispose of tissue paper used to open/close doors.



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## HOTEL TEAM MEMBERS

- Infrared Temperature checks are now provided to all staff upon reporting for work.
- All staff have been provided with face masks that must be worn at all times while on-property.
- Additional PPE's will be provided based on work tasks to Include gloves, gowns, face shields and other protective gear.



- Our hotels have a Nurse on Duty if you require any immediate medical attention.
- Our Nurses have also been trained in quarantine and isolation protocols.
- The hotel also has arrangements for a Doctor on Call (at a cost) for more serious conditions.





# Assume Nothing, Over-Communicate Everything





# GROUPS AND EVENTS

- \* UPDATE GROUP CONTRACTS
- \* REVIEW AND UPDATE BEO'S
- \* ENSURE ON-SITE CONTACT IS FAMILIAR WITH PROTOCOLS
- \* ENSURE ATTENDEE'S ARE BRIEFED PRIOR TO AND ON ARRIVAL
- \* APPROPRAITE SIGNAGE IN PLACE
- \* MONITORING OF ATTENDEE'S





- Social distancing protocols will be applied to any meeting or events.
- We have reduced the seating capacity of all meeting and function rooms.
- Food and beverage service will be a la carte or served buffet
- Attendees will be required to wear masks and may be subject to temperature checks.
- Hand sanitizers will be placed in and/or outside meeting rooms.



- Social distancing protocols will be applied to these areas.
- Increased sanitation and cleaning protocols of all high touch areas.
- Masks will be required for certain spa services.
- Some services may be temporarily discontinued.







# CORPORATE CLIENTS/BUSINESS TRAVEL

REVIEW AND UPDATE CORPORATE CONTRACTS

ADVISE BOOKERS OF PROTOCOLS

**GDS MESSAGING** 



# TEAM MEMBERS

### 1. EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

- Review
- Update any clauses as necessary
- Team members sign off on any addendums
- Occupational, Safety and Health Standards (OSHA)
- 2. COVID NOTIFICATIONS : Back of House

### 3. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- Use to update
- Review protocols
- Document who attended

### 4. PROTOCOLS

- Communicate protocols
- Ensure full implementation
- Signage

### 5. TRAINING

- Understand protocols
- Correct use of PPE's
- Work with local Health Department
- Monitoring and re-training
- Document dates, attendance etc.





# 3<sup>rd</sup> PARTY SUPPLIERS

- 1. COVID NOTFICATIONS
- 2. PROVISION OF THEIR PROTOCOLS
- 2. NOTIFY AND HAVE THEM ACKNOWLEDGE AND SIGN OFF ON YOUR PROTOCOLS
- 5. REVIEW GUEST WAIVERS e.g. Watersports, Spa
- 6. MONITOR





CARIBBEAN

ASSOCIATION

# TOUR OPERATORS/TRAVEL AGENTS

- 1. SEND YOUR COVID PROTOCOLS
- 2. ADVISE THEM OF ALL GUEST PROTOCOLS ON PROPERTY AND IN DESTINATION
- 3. INCLUDE CLAUSE IN TOUR OPERATOR CONTRACT
- 4. ADVISE THEM TO POST PROTOCOLS ON THEIR WEBSITES AND TO ADVISE THEIR CLIENTS



# **REGULATORS etc.**

- 1. KEEP ABREAST OF ANY CHANGES: LOCAL REGULATIONS, CDC, WHO etc.
- 2. ADJUST PROTOCOLS AND WAIVERS/CLAUSES AS NEEDED
- 3. DATE OF CHANGE TO BE NOTED
- 4. ADVISE OF ANY CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTATION
- 5. KEEP A FILE OF ALL COMMUNICATION
- 6. INSURANCE COVERAGE ???



## **Contact Information**



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REOPEN WITH CONFIDENCE, AND REDUCE YOUR EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 (AND SIMILAR) CLAIMS

> Presented by Larry Basham General Counsel & COO Elite Island Resorts





# Today's Goals....

- •Understand your risks: What's at stake?
- •Build confidence with customers & suppliers
- •Build a fortress around your hard-earned revenue
- Protect your hard-earned revenue
- •Save time and resources by avoiding claims
- •Add value to your business by limiting liability





# The Challenges...

Hoteliers often afraid of scaring off guests with "*legalese*." Get over it...gracefully.

The Covid-19 "Testing Dilemma": The pitfalls of pre-arrival Covid-19 testing.

- Insurance (and the lack thereof).
- Embracing, exceeding, and capitalizing on your *duty of care*.
- From hotelier to risk manager: Assigning someone to research, implement, and *be in charge*.
- Turning information into ACTION: Where to Begin?



# The Solutions... CARIBBEAN Top 10 Things You Can Do Today

## **Building a Fortress Around Your Revenue:**

- 1. Call Your Insurer to fully understand what IS and IS NOT COVERED with regard to Covid-19 claims
- 2. Issue Limitation of Liability Errata to the Travel Trade
- 3. Issue Limitation of Liability Riders to T.O.s
- 4. Update Booking Terms and Conditions with Acknowledgement and Assumption of Risk / Limitation of Liability
- 5. Publish Your Covid-19 Enhanced Protocols Information Online

- 6. Update Your Guest Registration Card with Acknowledgement and Assumption of Risk / Limitation of Liability
- 7. Review / Strengthen Your Forum Selection Clauses (ie, where they can/can't sue you)
- 8. Train Staff and Document It!
- 9. Make Your Enhanced Protocol Efforts Visible and Continuous
- 10. Assign Someone to Research, Implement, and Be IN CHARGE of Managing Your Covid-19 Risk Management Plan



## **Contact Information**



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## Elite Island Resorts CARIBBEAN

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BARBADOS

PANAMA

THE GRENADINES

Palm Island Resort & Spa

Los Establos Boutique Inn

The Club Barbados Resort & Spa

#### ANTIGUA

Hammock Cove Antigua St. James's Club & Villas Galley Bay Resort & Spa The Verandah Resort & Spa Pineapple Beach Club Antigua

**ST. LUCIA** St. James's Club Morgan Bay





**Thank You for Attending!** 

## **CHTA COVID-19 Resource Center:**

caribbeanhotelandtourism.com/covid-19/

## **Get in Touch!** Join our Mailing List membership@caribbeanhotelandtourism.com







INCOMPACT







