

# Eastern Caribbean Central Bank

P. O. Box 89, Basseterre, St Kitts, West Indies



**Timothy N. J. Antoine**  
Governor

23 March 2020

**The Chief Executive Officers**  
**All Licensed Financial Institutions**

Dear Sirs/Mesdames

## **COVID-19 Contingency Arrangements: Possible Closure of Banks/Branches**

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank anticipates that there may be reduced banking hours or full closure of branches/banking operations, whether as a result of a government imposed national quarantine or unavailability of staff due to illness. In the event of either scenario, we recommend that public announcements be made as soon as possible after the decision for reduced hours or complete closure has been made, and the ECCB is notified.

The ECCB advises that the provisions of Section 182(1) of the Banking Act 2015 are being waived to accommodate COVID-19 related closures. We further advise that in the event of closures, all other service delivery channels should be facilitated and maintained; including internet/online banking, mobile banking and ATM/ABM services.

Please be guided accordingly.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Timothy N. J. Antoine'.

**Timothy N. J. Antoine**  
GOVERNOR

cel/rac/ppp