## Coronavirus: Legal and Practical HR Guidance for Employers + PPP Updates – Live Webinar

June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020



#### Bernstein Shur's Coronavirus Legal Response Team



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# Agenda

- 1) Overview
- 2) PPP Updates
- 3) Questions and Answers



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### **PPP Loan Forgiveness: 8 Weeks vs. 24 Weeks**

- PPPFA extended 8-week forgiveness period to 24-week period (ending no later than Dec. 31, 2020)
  - Borrowers may still use 8-week period if they choose to do so.
- FTE Reduction Safe Harbor # 2 (for re-hiring to pre-COVID-19 levels) moved from June 30 to December 31.
  - Loan Forgiveness Application Form seeks FTE numbers "as of the earlier of Dec. 31, 2020 and the date the Application is submitted"
- Additional FTE Reduction Safe Harbor #1 added (based on good-faith documentation that borrower was unable to operate at pre-COVID-19 levels between Feb. 15, 2020 and end of chosen Covered Period due to compliance with federal COVID-19 guidance and requirements)
  - Loan Forgiveness Application does <u>not</u> explicitly provide for documenting this <u>before</u> "the end of the Covered Period."
- Other individual exemptions apply to both periods.



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### **PPP Loan Forgiveness: 8 Weeks vs. 24 Weeks**

- SBA's June 22 revision to loan forgiveness rules provides that borrowers may submit a loan forgiveness application "at any time" before loan matures "including before the end of the covered period," if the borrower has used "all of the loan proceeds for which [it] is requesting forgiveness."
- Loan Forgiveness Application still requires borrowers to select either an 8week or 24-week "Covered Period."
- But, "FTE Safe Harbor 2" contemplates using loan proceeds *past* 8 weeks, and seeking forgiveness *before* 24 weeks:
  - Must show reduction in FTE between Feb. 15-April 26, as compared to FTE during pay period that includes Feb. 15
  - Must show restored FTE as of "the earlier of Dec. 31, 2020 and the date the Application is submitted."
- Must still account for any individual salary reductions beyond 25% for covered employees over entire 24 weeks.



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