MEDIA TALKING POINTS

U.S. TRAVEL MEDIA HOLDING STATEMENT (AS OF MARCH 3, 2020 | 6:00 P.M. ET)

“We appreciate the aggressive response to coronavirus by the entirety of the U.S. government, and we are hopeful that the collective effort will continue to keep the risk of coronavirus in the U.S. to a minimum and enable American life and commerce to go on unimpeded—as health experts have repeatedly emphasized should currently be the case.

We will continue to closely engage the administration and public health authorities in the event official guidance must change based on this evolving situation.

As we head into a traditionally strong season for leisure and business travel, we are reminded by public health officials that coronavirus risk in the United States remains low and that no official guidance recommends interruptions in travel plans in the U.S. at this time.”

-Roger Dow, President and CEO, U.S. Travel Association

TALKING POINTS FOR USE WITH MEDIA (AS OF MARCH 3, 2020 | 6:00 P.M. ET)

- The travel industry’s guiding principle is to seek and heed the most up-to-date expert guidance, and we urge the traveling public to do the same.
- Federal public health officials have issued NO warnings or restrictions on travel anywhere in the U.S.
- It is important to note that all of the official coronavirus-related travel guidance is specific to other countries (China, Iran, South Korea, Italy)* with pronounced outbreaks.
- The challenge in moments of public health concern is to react properly to the situation, but to not overreact.
- The U.S. travel community has listened intently to the latest guidance from HHS and DHS officials regarding the possibility of coronavirus spreading within the United States, and will continue to engage health and security authorities regarding the limited spread of coronavirus within the United States.
- With the situation evolving rapidly, we encourage the traveling public to follow any guidance offered by the CDC and local and state public health authorities.
- U.S. health officials are urging the same personal best practices that are standard for a typical flu season—frequent washing of hands, etc.
- We are concerned for people all over the world who are affected by this health challenge, and we are hopeful for a swift resolution that keeps American residents as well as visitors to America safe and secure.