



**Illinois**  
**Department of Commerce**  
& Economic Opportunity

Dear [REDACTED],

In effort to assist you in determining if tennis courts qualify as an essential business under the Governor's Executive Order {Attached}, we have reviewed the information provided and the Department does **not** believe that tennis courts are essential. Recreational sports businesses are not considered essential businesses under the executive order. Additionally, the potential risk of exposure from tennis specifically is high. Although there are no specific studies on tennis and COVID-19, medical advisors believe there is the possibility that the virus responsible for COVID-19 could be transmitted through common sharing and handling of tennis balls, gate handles, benches, net posts and even court surfaces.

As a non-essential business, the tennis courts can still maintain limited activities as outlined in Section 13. Minimum Basic Operations (pg 9-10 of the Executive Order) at the facility to process payroll/employee benefits, mail, perform inventory assessment, and maintain security at the facility. For clarity, businesses may also continue operations consisting exclusively of employees or contractors performing activities at their own residences (i.e., working from home).

Additional resources and guidance regarding COVID-19 for businesses as well as available financial assistance is available at: [www.ildceo.net/covid](http://www.ildceo.net/covid).

The Governor has also provided a site for Illinois' coordinated response to the pandemic at: [www.coronavirus.illinois.gov](http://www.coronavirus.illinois.gov).

**NOTE: Nonessential businesses that continue to operate in defiance of the Executive Order may be subject to enforcement action by the local law enforcement, Illinois Attorney General's Office and/or and the State's Attorney's Office.**

We truly understand the hardship that this closure can cause. We thank you for your commitment to keeping Illinoisans, especially the most vulnerable, healthy.