



CENTRAL BANK
of BELIZE

PRESS RELEASE

Central Bank Announces Domestic Banks to Remain Open amid Quarantine Order

Belize City, 26 March 2020: There have been several public announcements related to the declaration of a limited state of emergency in San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, and, more recently, the enactment of a *Quarantine Order for the Entire Country of Belize (Quarantine Order)*. The Central Bank of Belize has received numerous queries, which sought clarity on the impact of these Statutory Orders on the operations of domestic banks (banks), especially respective branches in San Pedro, Ambergris Caye.

The Public is hereby advised that within the Laws of Belize, banks are considered part of the country's Essential Services. In this regard, during the period of the limited state of emergency in San Pedro, Ambergris Caye and notwithstanding the enactment of the Quarantine Order for the entire country of Belize, ALL Banks are expected to remain open to the Public even though their hours of operation may be restricted.

In the specific case of Ambergris Caye, banks will reopen for business from 27 March 2020. The only exception in this regard will be Atlantic Bank Limited, which for reasons already articulated, will be closed for at least another two weeks.

All domestic banks have committed to observing the Government's guidelines regarding social-distancing and sanitization, in addition to taking all necessary steps to create a safe and healthy working environment for their staff and clients.

If customers require additional information or further clarification, please contact your respective bank or the Central Bank.

-ENDS-

Issued by:-
The Governor
Central Bank of Belize
1 Gabourel Lane
Belize City, Belize
T: +501.223-6194
E: inquiries@centralbank.org.bz
W: www.centralbank.org.bz