



**COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS MUST CLOSE FOR BUSINESS DURING
THE FOLLOWING DATES IN YEAR 2016**

All establishments covered by the Act which Regulates the Operation of Commercial Establishments in Puerto Rico, Act. No. 1 of December 1, 1989, as amended, must observe the following operational schedule for year 2016.

SUNDAYS: Commercial establishments will be closed from 5:00 A. M. through 11:00 A. M.*¹

**DURING THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS
MUST REMAIN CLOSED THE WHOLE DAY**

January	1 (Friday)	New Year's Day
January	6 (Wednesday)	Three King's Day
March	25 (Friday)	Good Friday
March	27 (Sunday)	Easter Sunday
May	8 (Sunday)	Mother's Day
June	19 (Sunday)	Father's Day
November	8 Tuesday	Election Day
November	24 (Thursday)	Thanksgiving Day
December	25 (Sunday)	Christmas Day

*Pharmacies and commercial establishments that operate pharmacies may open before 11:00 a.m. on Sundays, only to serve prescriptions and to sell health articles, babies articles, personal hygiene products, school supplies, newspapers, books and magazines.

¹ The Law No. 143, November 16, 2009, amended the article 3 of law No. 1 of December 1, 1989, as amended, so that its current content reads as follows:



Business establishments operating in hotels, inns, condo-hotels, airports, sea ports or in zones marked as old or historical devoted primarily to service or the sale of tourism-related items; establishments operating in facilities devoted to cultural, artisan, recreational or sports activities; establishments primarily devoted to the manufacture and the direct sale to the public of prepared meals; drug stores; gas stations and the business establishments located therein; book stores or stands or kiosks devoted to the sale of books, magazines, newspapers, and literary or musical recordings or publications; establishments operating as part of the facilities of a funeral home or cemetery; and establishments and farmer's markets, shall not be subject to the opening restrictions under this Section. In tourist areas, municipal legislatures may vary the schedule of opening and closing of commercial establishments engaged in the retail sale of alcoholic beverages or those who disturb the peace of the residents of that area, using the established processes in Law No. 81 of 30 August 1991, as amended, known as the "Law of autonomous municipalities of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico from 1991".

Neither shall these restrictions apply to business establishments operated exclusively by their owners or their owners' relatives within second-degree of consanguinity or affinity, nor to business establishments owned by natural or juridical persons which do not have more than twenty-five [25] employees in their weekly payroll, including employees under contract. When a business establishment engages in operations covered under the exceptions of this Section together with operations not subject to such exceptions, such business may only engage in exempted operations on full-day closing dates established in this Section and within the Sunday business-hour schedule established in Section 4. Business establishments not mentioned in this Section shall remain closed all day without any type of work being performed, except that at the discretion of the owner, agent, manager or person in charge of the business, those tasks that are related to the continuity of its operations and maintenance may be performed of the following dates:

(a) January 1

(b)...

(i) December 25. (Our emphasis)

- a) January 1
- b) January 6
- c) Good Friday
- d) Easter Sunday
- e) Mother's Day
- f) Father's Day
- g) General Elections Day
- h) Thanksgiving
- i) December 25

Denote, that the above-mentioned Statute establishes that commercial establishment means "any local, shop or similar place that carried out any type of commercial operation or acts of trade sale or transfer of items to the retail or retail or that belongs to a same Corporation or natural or legal person."