

## GPM Investments, LLC Initiates Hiring Event

GPM to Offer PayActiv, a powerful employee benefit, to 5,000 new hires

**RICHMOND, VA**—GPM Investments, LLC, which operates and supplies convenience stores in 23 states, has organized a hiring event to provide employment opportunities for workers in their local communities who have lost an income due to the economic impact of COVID-19. In March, the Company announced that it was looking to hire up to 5,000 store employees in the wake of the COVID-19 virus. GPM has received an influx of employment applications as a result of that announcement.

"We are seeing record numbers of people filing for unemployment," says GPM's Senior Vice President of Human Resources, Veronica Donchez. "We want the communities where we operate to know that we have a place for them and would love to have them join our team."

Donchez states the company has received an overwhelming response to the employment opportunities and as a result, the Company has organized a hiring event that will take place the week of May 11. "We have put together a team event where we are focused on interviewing and getting new associates onboarded in a timely fashion" says Donchez. "Our communities need us, and we will be there for them!"

GPM's CEO and President, Arie Kotler states, "We are extending employment opportunities to those who need it in the communities in which we are doing business. Our HR and Operations teams are working closely together to extend employment opportunities as quickly and efficiently as possible."

The hiring event is expected to offer job opportunities to thousands of new associates, including those hit hardest by the current unemployment claims. "We are pleased to offer our new team members incentives not offered by other retailers, " said Donchez. "We have an incentive for new team members that can be used to obtain food, fuel and other essential items."

In addition to already paying its associates weekly, GPM has partnered with PayActiv, a technology platform that allows employees to access up to 50 percent of their earned pay for a nominal, flat fee via an easy-to-use website or mobile app. In response to the current environment, PayActiv will be waiving all associated fees, providing GPM's associates quick access to their earned wages prior to their scheduled paycheck.

Donchez said, "We have been a successful partner with PayActiv, a company that allows our team members the freedom and flexibility to access their earned wages on their terms. This allows our associates quick access to their earnings prior to their scheduled paycheck so they can purchase much needed supplies for their households without the added processing fee" states Donchez.

"We are thrilled to build on our long-standing relationship with GPM to provide these new hires with instant access to their earned but unpaid wages on-demand between paychecks in whatever way they need it most," said Safwan Shah, CEO and Co-Founder of PayActiv, a Public Benefit Corporation and Certified B Corp. "We also provide the financial counseling, budgeting, and savings tools that promote financial wellness for GPM employees, at a time when many are facing increased economic hardships."

With PayActiv, associates can log into their PayActiv account and are able to see accessible earned wages, which they can then transfer to a bank account or debit card, use to pay bills online, load onto a prepaid card, or withdraw in cash. Additionally, employees can take their financial planning to the next level with goal-based budgeting and unlimited free access to knowledgeable financial coaches. PayActiv users also qualify for special discounts at local stores and on prescriptions and have access to services like Uber, Amazon and financial literacy resources, which can be accessed through the mobile app.

"Suffice it to say, we all have been adjusting to a new normal. We are an essential business that provides much needed supplies to our communities and are able to extend employment opportunities to those that need it. Our GPM team is resilient and together, we will get through this" says Kotler.

## **About GPM Investments, LLC**

GPM Investments, LLC, together with its subsidiaries, is the largest privately-owned company in the convenience store channel of business. The company, based in Richmond, VA, currently operates or supplies fuel to over 1,400 stores in Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia and Wisconsin. Its stores offer a large selection of beverages, coffee, fountain drinks, candy, salty snacks and many other products to meet the needs of the everyday customer. One feature, setting many of its convenience stores apart is a wide array of proprietary food offerings ranging from fresh chicken, fresh-made salads and sandwiches to healthy, grab-and-go meals.

Visit www.gpminvestments.com to learn more about GPM's stores.

## **About PayActiv**

PayActiv's mission is to bring security, dignity and savings to low-income workers through an award-winning holistic financial wellness platform that gives employees on-demand access to earned but unpaid wages. Businesses that partner with PayActiv see significant cost reductions through increased recruitment, engagement and retention. Employees love PayActiv because it eliminates the expensive between-paychecks tolls of payday loans, bank overdrafts and late fees. PayActiv also offers a suite of financial services that include savings and budgeting tools, bill payment and financial health measurement. PayActiv has won best in class awards in both FinTech & HRTech and is the provider of Earned Wage Access to Walmart.

In June 2019, PayActiv released a short film titled <u>It's About Time</u>. The documentary looks at pay timing and its correlation with epidemic financial stress being experienced by millions of working Americans. For more information, visit <u>www.payactiv.com</u>.

* Survey methodology: An online survey of more than 12,000 PayActiv users was conducted from March 17 to March 18, 2020 through the PayActiv app.