

Don't follow the White House's example when dealing with a coronavirus outbreak at work, experts say

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John Ho spoke with *CNBC* about the coronavirus outbreak in the White House. Since being hospitalized for COVID-19 on October 2, and being given numerous medical treatments, Trump has also repeated untrue statements comparing the coronavirus to the flu and tweeted "Don't be afraid of COVID." "If I had a CEO client of mine say that, I would probably advise against it," says John. While regulations vary by location, under federal OSHA regulation, employers have a responsibility to provide a work environment "free from recognized hazards," explains John. And part of that responsibility typically includes notifying someone if they have potentially been infected or exposed to a contagious virus at work.

John divides the steps organizations should take to keep their workforces safe and comply with OSHA regulation into three categories:

1. Keep COVID out by using temperature checks and monitoring workers' health
2. Minimize risk by requiring masks, social distancing and proper hygiene
3. Respond to exposure by implementing contact tracing and shutting down operations if need be

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