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50 MAKING A DIFFERENCE



STEVE JONES

Chief Executive
Allied Universal
Santa Ana
Born in Orange County
Age: 51
Lives in Coto de Caza

DAY JOB: Took a company that generated \$12 million in 1996 to \$8.5 billion. Runs the nation's largest private security force. Built Allied Universal into a firm with 235,000 employees securing 42,000 sites; provides security for about a quarter of the Fortune 500 companies, CEOs and their families.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE: Allied at the forefront of the battle against the coronavirus. Its guards are at hospitals in hard-hit cities like New York and New Orleans, where they help ensure the people with symptoms are screened and given the right instructions before healthcare workers take over. One of biggest employment pushes in the country underway. Looking to add an additional 30,000 workers by end of June—roughly the number of workers at Disneyland, OC's largest employer. Late May "drive-by" open house in Orange aims to find 100 new hires.

NOTABLE: Jones keeps abreast of the pandemic's status by reading reports from his company executives and from Homeland Security. He's following leading metrics such as the number of people entering hospitals with the virus. "New York is starting to bend the curve," he said on April 10, a few days before it became public news.

QUOTABLE: "Before you get into (the) hospital, a security officer is asking you questions, sometimes taking temperatures," Jones said in the Business Journal interview. "It's been [incredibly] challenging for us because our employees are on the front lines."