

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 24, 2020 For further inquiries please email: drivesafe@dps.ms.gov

### DPS DRIVER SERVICE BUREAU ANNOUNCES EXPIRATION DATE EXTENSIONS TO STATE ISSUED CREDENTIALS

**JACKSON, MS** – The Mississippi Department of Public Safety announces expiration date extensions in accordance with Executive Order 1474 issued on April 20, 2020 to cope with and respond to the COVID-19 emergency.

# All valid driver's licenses, learner's permits, intermediate licenses, firearm permits, security guard permits, and ID cards set to expire between March 14, 2020 and June 30, 2020 shall instead expire on August 3, 2020.

Online services are available for renewal and duplicate driver's licenses, ID cards and address changes that can be made from any computer, tablet, or mobile phone at <u>www.dps.ms.gov</u> and <u>www.driverservicebureau.dps.ms.gov</u>.

Driver license stations remain closed to the public except for the 9 MHP District Troop Stations across the state until further notice.

The 9 MHP District Troop Stations will <u>only</u> provide the following services:

- Sex offender registry transactions
- <u>ALL</u> Commercial Driver License (CDL) transactions

The Driver Service Bureau will adhere to social distancing with the 10-person maximum recommendation at any location which will include staff members.

## STATE OF MISSISSIPPI Office of the Governor

#### **EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1474**

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Mississippi and Miss. Code Ann. § 33-15-11(b)(17), I issued a Proclamation declaring that a State of Emergency exists in the State of Mississippi as a result of the outbreak of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency for COVID-19 beginning on January 27, 2020, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic, and on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a nationwide state of emergency due to the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the effects of its extreme risk of personto-person transmission throughout the United States and Mississippi significantly impact the life and health of our people, as well as the economy of Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, the risk of spread of COVID-19 within Mississippi constitutes a public emergency that may result in substantial injury or harm to life, health, and property within Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the Mississippi State Department of Health confirmed the first presumptive case of COVID-19 in Mississippi and as of April 19, 2020 there are 4,274 presumptive and confirmed cases in Mississippi of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance for responding to COVID-19 recommends avoiding crowds as much as possible, especially for older adults and individuals with serious chronic medical conditions and Mississippi State Department of Health has recommended avoiding social gatherings where 10 people or more may come into close contact; and

WHEREAS, limiting social interaction between members of the public who may be in a position to transmit COVID-19 to other individuals, including vulnerable populations of older adults and individuals with serious chronic medical conditions is necessary to slow the transmission of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, in order to minimize the risk of possible further transmission of COVID-19 and related measures, I issued Executive Order No. 1458 directing various governmental entities to review and identify which employees perform essential duties to carry out the entity's core functions during the State of Emergency and those employees whose duties may not be essential during the State of Emergency, and, where feasible, for the entity to determine if core functions and duties could be performed by essential employees from home in order to minimize the interaction and risk of possible transmission of COVID-19 between employees; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2020, in order to further minimize the risk of possible further transmission of COVID-19 and related measures, I issued Executive Order No. 1466 instituting a statewide Shelter in Place effective at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 3, 2020, and remaining in full force and effect until 8:00 a.m. on Monday, April 20, 2020, unless rescinded, modified or extended; and

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2020, I issued Executive Order 1473 extending the statewide Shelter in Place, with certain additional exceptions, until 8:00 a.m. on Monday, April 27, 2020, unless rescinded, modified or extended; and

**WHEREAS**, various government entities, including the Mississippi Department of Public Safety, in compliance with my Executive Orders, have temporarily reduced their operations and will be unable to offer certain services to the public.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Tate Reeves, Governor of the State of Mississippi, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, do hereby order and direct as follows:

- I. In order to cope with and respond to the COVID-19 emergency, pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. §33-15-11(c)(1), the provisions of Miss. Code Ann. §§ 63-1-47, 63-1-6, 63-1-21, 45-9-101, 97-37-7, and 45-35-55 are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to delay the expiration of all valid driver's licenses, learner's permits, intermediate licenses, firearm permits, security guard permits and ID cards set to expire between March 14, 2020, and June 30, 2020. Such licenses, permits and ID cards shall instead expire on August 3, 2020.
- II. Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 33-15-31(a), the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety may execute his authority under Miss. Code Ann. § 45-1-3 to further address any issues that arise as a result of the Driver Service Bureau's limited services during the State of Emergency.



Michael WATSON

SECRETARY OF STATE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the <u>20</u> day of April, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-fourth.

TE REEVES

GOVERNOR