COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE
EMERGENCY ORDER
2020-004

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, through Executive Order 20-52, the Governor of the State of Florida declared that Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) poses a risk to the entire State of Florida, and that because of this danger, a state of emergency exists in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Florida Department of Health recommends social distancing measures to control the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Florida, pursuant to Executive Order 20-52, Section 4, Subparagraph B, authorized State agencies to suspend the effect of any regulatory statute, rule, or order that would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and

WHEREAS, Section 493.6113(4), Florida Statutes, requires Chapter 493 licensees who fail to file their renewal application on or before its expiration pay a late fee equal to the amount of the license fee; and

WHEREAS, Section 493.6113(3)(b), Florida Statutes, requires Class "G" licensees to provide four (4) hours of firearms requalification annually to the Department or have their licenses automatically suspended; and

WHEREAS, Section 493.6113(1), Florida Statutes, requires all Chapter 493 licensees to be renewed biennially by the Department, except for Class "A", Class "B", Class "AB", Class "K", Class "R", and branch licenses, which shall be renewed every three (3) years; and

WHEREAS, Sections 493.6303(4)(a) and 493.6304(2)(b), Florida Statutes, and Rule 5N-1.138(4), Florida Administrative Code, require an applicant for a Class "D" license to submit proof of 40 hours of in person professional training at licensed school or training facility; and

WHEREAS, Section 790.06(11)(a), Florida Statutes, requires Chapter 790 licensees who fail to file their renewal application on or before its expiration pay a late fee of $15; and

WHEREAS, Sections 790.06(1) & (11), Florida Statutes, requires Chapter 790 licensees to be renewed every 7 years by the Department; and

WHEREAS, Sections 493.6105(3)(j) & 790.06(5)(c), Florida Statutes, authorize the Department to offer fingerprinting services for Chapter 493 and 790 applications; and

WHEREAS, the impact of COVID-19 has caused the disruption of the Department from processing Chapter 493 and 790 applications and administrative actions, has caused financial hardships for many individuals in the State of Florida and may have prevented Class "G" Chapter 493 licensees from receiving or submitting annual proof of firearms requalification, and may also have prevented Chapter 493 and 790 licensees from timely submitting renewal applications.

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WHEREAS, the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak has caused financial hardships for many individuals and business in the state of Florida who are licensed and regulated by the Department.

NOW THEREFORE, with the powers and authorities conferred by Article IV, Section 4, Florida Constitution, and Executive Order 20-52, I hereby declare the following:

1. The provisions of **Section 493.6113(4), Florida Statutes,** requiring a licensee to pay a late fee for failing to file a renewal application on or before its expiration is suspended for thirty (30) days following the execution of this order.

2. The provisions of **Section 493.6113(3)(b), Florida Statutes,** requiring Class "G" licensees to provide 4 hours of firearms requalification annually to the Department or have their licenses automatically suspended is suspended for thirty (30) days following the execution of this order.

3. The provisions of **Section 493.6113(1), Florida Statutes**, requiring all Chapter 493 licensees to be renewed biennially by the Department, except for Class "A", Class "B", Class "AB", Class "K", Class "R", and branch licenses, which shall be renewed every 3 years is suspended for thirty (30) days following the execution of this order.

4. The provisions of **Sections 493.6303(4)(a) and 493.6304(2)(b), Florida Statutes, and Rule 5N-1.138(4), Florida Administrative Code,** requiring in person training are suspended to allow training to be conducted by live video conference for thirty (30) days following the execution of this order.

5. The provisions of **Section 790.06(11)(a), Florida Statutes,** requiring a licensee to pay a late fee for failing to file a renewal application on or before its expiration is suspended for thirty (30) days following the execution of this order.

6. The provisions of **Sections 790.06(1) & (11), Florida Statutes,** requiring all Chapter 790 licensees to be renewed every 7 years by the Department is suspended for thirty (30) days.

7. The provisions of **Sections 493.6105(3)(j) & 790.06(5)(c), Florida Statutes,** authorizes the Department to offer fingerprinting services for Chapter 493 and 790 applications is suspended for thirty (30) days following the execution of this order.

8. Unless specifically suspended in this Order or any other Emergency Order issued pursuant to the authority conferred by Article IV, Section 4, Florida Constitution, and Executive Order 20-52, all other portions of Chapter 493 and Section 790.06, Florida Statutes, and any rules promulgated thereunder remain in effect following the execution of this order.

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THIS ORDER shall expire thirty (30) days from this date unless extended or rescinded by the Commissioner of Agriculture.

EXECUTED MARCH 20, 2020.

Nicole Fried

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COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE