COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE
EMERGENCY ORDER
2020-016

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, on May 8, 2020, through Executive Order 20-114, the Governor of the State of Florida extended Executive Order 20-52; 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;

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

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WHEREAS, the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak is ongoing 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.

NOW THEREFORE, with the powers and authorities conferred by Article IV, Section 4, Florida Constitution, and Executive Order 20-52, as extended by Executive Order 20-114, I hereby declare the following:

1. Emergency Order 2020-004, previously extended by Emergency Order 2020-009, is hereby extended for an additional sixty (60) days following the execution of this order.

2. 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, as extended by Executive Order 20-114, 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.

THIS ORDER shall expire sixty (60) days from the date of this Order unless extended or rescinded by the Commissioner of Agriculture or upon the expiration or rescission of Executive Order 20-52, as extended by Executive Order 20-114 or further extensions, whichever occurs first.

EXECUTED JUNE 19, 2020.

Nicole Fried

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COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE