STATE OF VERMONT

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

AMENDMENT TO GOVERNOR'S DIRECTIVE 3 TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020 and March 11, 2020, the Vermont Department of Health (VDH) detected the first two cases of COVID-19 in Vermont and almost two months later Vermont has experienced almost 1,000 cases and over 50 related deaths; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 13, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 01-20, Declaration of State of Emergency in Response to COVID-19 and National Guard Call-Out ("Executive Order"), declaring a state of emergency for the State of Vermont in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Order expressly recognized the critical need to minimize the risk to the public, maintain the health and safety of Vermonters, and limit the spread of infection in our communities and within our healthcare facilities and directed the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to develop a plan to extend DMV licensing and registration renewal deadlines and other statutory and regulatory DMV requirements to mitigate contagion risk by reducing customer traffic throughout all DMV district offices; and

WHEREAS, consistent with Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines regarding social distancing, and in consultation with the Commissioner of the VDH, the Governor has directed a number of mitigation strategies for the State in order to protect individuals at risk for severe illness, including, among numerous other measures, suspension of all in-person transactions at the DMV; and

WHEREAS, modeling studies done for the State clearly show that, but for the mitigation measures taken to date, the number of COVID-19 cases and COVID-19 related deaths in the State and the region would be having a much more devastating effect on Vermonters and would be threatening to overwhelm the capacity of the Vermont health care system; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has undertaken a cautious, incremental and evidence-based approach to restarting Vermont's economy and continues to do so with the limited reopening of in-person operations at the DMV.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of Vermont by the Constitution of the State of Vermont, the emergency powers set forth in 20 V.S.A. §§ 8, 9 and 11 and other laws, hereby modify Directive 3 to the DMV issued March 18, 2020 to authorize the Commissioner of DMV to resume limited in-person DMV transactions, including the resumption of driver's license examinations, but only in accordance with appropriate occupancy limits and physical distancing, health and sanitation and training measures, subject to the approval of the Governor.

1. Continuity of DMV Services Plan. In order to meet the needs of DMV customers, the Commissioner of the DMV shall modify the COVID-19 related Continuity of DMV Services Plan to allow for the implementation of an incremental phased and evidence-based approach to resumption of DMV operations. The Commissioner DMV shall develop such policies and procedures necessary to facilitate the continued processing of registrations, renewals, transfer registrations and other services to the extent possible by mail, phone and on-line and undertake the measures needed to safely resume in-person services as needed to safely, effectively and efficiently address the concerns of DMV customers.

2. Commissioner Authority. The Commissioner of DMV shall oversee the implementation of this Directive, as amended.

This Directive, as amended, shall take effect upon signing and shall continue in full force and effect until June 15, 2020, at which time the Governor, in consultation with the Vermont Department of Health, the Department of Public Safety/Division of Emergency Management and the Department of Motor Vehicles shall assess the emergency and determine whether to amend or extend this Directive, as amended.

By the Governor:

Philip B. Scott
Governor

Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs

Directive No. 3 (Pursuant to Executive Order 01-20)

Dated: June 1, 2020