

**From:** Chief Justice John D. Minton, Jr.  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 17, 2020 5:22 PM  
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**Subject:** Update from Chief Justice Minton: Driver's license offices to close by 5 p.m. March 17 for social distancing

Circuit Court Clerks:

In light of Gov. Beshear's order to cancel in-person government services, we're going to need to take the preventative step of closing driver's licensing offices for the health of the public and our employees. The closure will begin today at the normal close of business for your office and no later than 5 p.m. EDT/CDT. Please see the news release below that we will send to media today on this matter.

I understand that a number of you work in mixed-use facilities and that your local county judge-executive may have closed your building to foot traffic. If that is the situation in your county, please post your office contact information so individuals with business in the courts can call your office and we can hopefully help meet their needs. We are trying to remain open and serve the public while protecting all our employees.

I will continue to keep you updated. Thank you for the service you provide to Kentucky citizens and for your cooperation during this unprecedented time.

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*For Immediate Release*

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## **Driver's license offices statewide closing for social distancing 3-month extension granted for renewing licenses**

FRANKFORT, Ky., March 17, 2020 — In keeping with Governor Andy Beshear's order to cancel in-person government services, driver's licensing offices statewide will be closed by 5 p.m. EDT/CDT today. Citizens who are due to renew a motor vehicle license, including commercial driver's licenses, will have an additional three months to obtain the renewal.

[Offices of Circuit Court Clerk](#) handle driver's licensing in all 120 counties for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. Offices of Circuit Court Clerk will remain open other than the driver's license portion.

Gov. Beshear [ordered](#) Monday that state government offices stop providing in-person services to the public starting at 5 p.m. today with limited exceptions in order to maintain social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Circuit Court Clerks**

Circuit court clerks are responsible for managing the records of Kentucky's Circuit and District courts. Circuit clerks are constitutionally elected officials from all 120 counties and serve a six-year term. They provide professional recordkeeping, receive money due the courts, pay money to required parties and to the state, record legal documents, provide legal documents and other legal materials, maintain the jury system, administer oaths, handle affidavits and issue driver licenses and non-driver ID cards.

### **Administrative Office of the Courts**

The [Administrative Office of the Courts](#) in Frankfort is the operations arm for the state court system. The AOC supports the activities of nearly 3,400 court system employees and 406 elected justices, judges and circuit court clerks. As the fiscal agent for the state court system, the AOC executes the Judicial Branch budget.

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