

Dear Licensee:

The novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”) pandemic is rapidly evolving. Governor Bill Lee has called on all Tennesseans to work together to battle the spread of COVID-19, including employers and individuals. This is an unprecedented event, and therefore we ask for patience and understanding as we work to protect your health and safety, as well as the health and safety of the millions of Tennesseans we serve. We will do this, as well as, ensuring that we continue to fulfill our mission and provide excellent customer service.

On March 19, 2020, Governor Lee signed Executive Order No 15. (“the Order”). The Order provides the Commissioner of the Department of Commerce and Insurance (“the Department”) the discretion to reasonably extend deadlines for obtaining required education and continuing education to boards, commissions, and agencies administratively attached. Therefore, effective immediately until May 18, 2020 or until further such notice, no license will be suspended for failure to complete continuing education requirements.

Governor Lee’s Executive Order No. 17 requires the Locksmith Program to abide by the *President’s Coronavirus Guidelines for America*, as well as guidance from the CDC. This guidance advises against social gatherings of ten (10) or more people and states the best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus by avoiding close, direct contact with others by maintaining a distance of at least six (6) feet between yourself and other people.

In addition, local county and city municipalities may have directives or mandates which provide for additional restrictions. Please contact your local county or city authorities for any additional information.

Helpful Links:

*Find the Tennessee Department of Health, Facility Visitor Guidance here”*

<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/documents/cedep/novel-coronavirus/COVID-19-Facility-Visitor-Guidance.pdf>

*Find the CDC, Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers here:*

<https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>

*Find the CDC, COVID-19 “What You Need to Know” here:*

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

Sincerely,

Cody Vest, Executive Director