

Government of the Virgin Islands  
of the United States

Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2020

MEDIA CONTACT PERSON: OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER 340.713.3522

**DLCA ISSUES 90 DAY MORATORIUM TO RENEW EXPIRED LICENSES**

The Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs (DLCA) encourages persons with expired business licenses to immediately contact the department and arrange to make their license current.

"DLCA is willing to work with persons who have experienced economic hardship due to COVID-19 related setbacks and have been unable to renew their license that has expired on or after March 13, 2020," says Commissioner Richard Evangelista.

DLCA also encourages persons with licenses that expired prior to March 13, 2020, to contact DLCA within 90 days to enter into a payment agreement to make their license current. Although there is a penalty assessed for each month that a license is expired, the Office of the Commissioner has the discretion to waive some of the incurred penalty fees. To request a waiver of accrued penalty fees, one simply needs to submit a letter addressed to the Office of the Commissioner to request a waiver of penalties and to explain what setbacks caused one to fail to renew on time.

After 90 days of the instant moratorium, if necessary, DLCA shall begin to issue citations, hold administrative hearings and refer persons to the Department of Justice for prosecution. Whoever willfully fails or refuses to comply with the provisions of the DLCA statute shall be liable to a fine not to exceed \$500 and imprisonment not to exceed 30 days or both. "DLCA wants to issue a current license to everyone who is operating a business. Compliance is simpler and more cost efficient than enforcement", stated Commissioner Evangelista.

As a reminder, DLCA may still be contacted by using our main telephone lines at 340-713-3522 on St. Croix; 340-714-3522 on St. Thomas, and 340-474-2800 on St. John. DLCA receptionists no longer have use of multiple lines, at times calls may be delayed. If you are experiencing these delays, DLCA has an employee cellphone listing to contact your representative directly. You may view this listing by visiting our website at [www.dlca.vi.gov](http://www.dlca.vi.gov) click on contact then employee directory.

If you have any questions, concerns, or issues with the instant press release or any other issue concerning DLCA, please feel free to contact the Office of the Commissioner at 340-713-6916 or 340-725-5129 or via email at [kwanda.daniels@dlca.vi.gov](mailto:kwanda.daniels@dlca.vi.gov)



*"Serving Businesses and Assisting, Educating, & Protecting Consumers"*

[www.dlca.vi.gov](http://www.dlca.vi.gov)