



Attention: Franchise Registrants
Re: Annual Report Deadline Extension
Date: March 30, 2020

Regulatory Guidance 20-10

Issued March 30, 2020

Authority.

On March 13, 2020, Governor Tim Walz signed Executive Order 20-01, declaring a peacetime emergency related to COVID-19.

On March 28, 2020, Governor Tim Walz signed House File 4531 authorizing Commissioner of Commerce Steve Kelley (“Commissioner”) to delay, stay, or waive the following licensing, investigative and other deadlines related to the duties and responsibilities of the Commissioner and regulated entities required to effectively continue the business of the Minnesota Department of Commerce and to assist regulated entities during the current peacetime emergency.

In light of the challenges related to the COVID-19 virus, the Commissioner of Commerce has issued an Order granting temporary extensions of certain filing deadlines and waivers for a number of licensees, registrants and regulated industries.

Guidance.

Given the disruption caused by COVID-19, the deadline for franchisors to file annual reports that were due by April 30, 2020 pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 80C.08, subd. 1, has been extended to June 30, 2020.

Franchisors are strongly encouraged to submit annual reports via an online e-File system at <https://www.commonline.state.mn.us/ComOnline>. The annual report fee and a copy of the online submission confirmation page must still be mailed to the Minnesota Department of Commerce, 85 Seventh Place East, Suite 280, Saint Paul, MN 55101.

Questions.

For any questions regarding this, please email securities.commerce@state.mn.us.

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The Minnesota Department of Commerce oversees more than 20 regulated industries, ensuring that Minnesota businesses are strong and Minnesota consumers are protected. Our mission is to protect the public interest, advocate for Minnesota consumers, ensure a strong, competitive and fair marketplace, strengthen the state's economic future and serve as a trusted public resource for consumers and businesses. Learn more at mn.gov/commerce.