



LAW ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION MEMO 19-15
SUBJECT: U.S. Foreign Service Driver License Extension
Memo Date: December 13, 2019

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Purpose

To inform law enforcement of new law that authorizes an extension of the validity of a California Driver License (DL) held by a U.S. Foreign Service member or their spouse.

Background

Existing law allows a California DL held by a person who is in the U.S. Armed Forces, or their spouse, to continue in full force and effect if the person's service continues while absent from the state, and for a period of no more than 30 days following the date the person is honorably separated from service or returns to the state.

New Information

Effective January 1, 2020, new legislation adds provisions to California Vehicle Code §12817 to allow a California DL held by a person who is in the U.S. Foreign Service, or their spouse, to continue in full force and effect if the person's service continues while absent from the state and for a period of no more than 30 days following the date they are honorably separated from service or return to the state, whichever is earlier, unless the DL is suspended, cancelled, or revoked for cause as provided by law.

Note: DL records of eligible U.S. Foreign Service Members and their spouses whose DL expiration date has been extended pursuant to the new provisions will reflect the same "military extension" that currently displays on DL records of eligible members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their spouses (*See Attachment A*).

Contact

Questions regarding the information contained in this memo or changes to the email distribution list may be directed to the Justice and Government Liaison Branch at (916) 657-7732 or via email at jaglaw@dmv.ca.gov.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S Huestis".

SONIA HUESTIS
Deputy Director
Communication Programs Division

Attachment A: Sample DL Record With Extension

DATE:11-15-19*TIME:11:44*
DMV RECORD FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT USE ONLY
DL/NO:I8882417*B/D:12-01-1978*NAME:THEORELL EMERSON*
MAIL ADDR AS OF 06-10-10:2415 1ST AVE SACRAMENTO 95818*
OTH/ADDR AS OF 06-22-07:1121 M ST SACRAMENTO *
AKA:THEORELL FLETCHER *
IDENTIFYING INFORMATION:
SEX:FEMALE*HAIR:BLOND*EYES:GRN*HT:5-04*WT:120*
ID CARD MLD:11-16-15*EXPIRES:12-01-21*BATES:POL*
LIC/ISS:04-03-09*EXPIRES:12-01-18*MIL/EXT*RBM1*CLASS:C NON-COMMERCIAL*
ENDORSEMENTS:NONE*
ORIGINAL DL ISSUE DATE:09-23-95*
LATEST APP:
DL TYPE: HEADQUARTERS ID CARD RBM/RBI*ISS/DATE: 11-03-15*OFFICE: RBI*
LICENSE STATUS:
MIL/EXT*
DEPARTMENTAL ACTIONS:
NONE
CONVICTIONS:
NONE
FAILURES TO APPEAR:
NONE
ACCIDENTS:
NONE
END