April 7, 2020

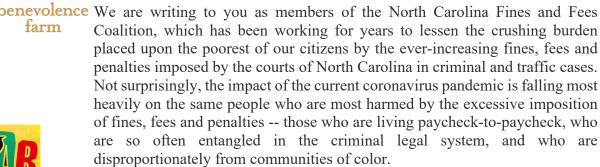


Commissioner Torre Jessup NC Division of Motor Vehicles 1501 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699 tjessup1@ncdot.gov

Via US Mail & Email



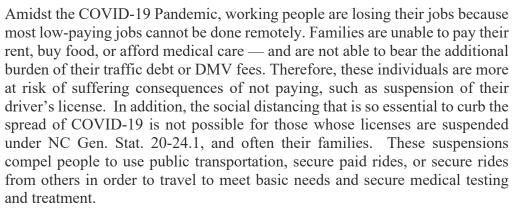






Starting with the Governor, North Carolina leaders at the state, county and municipal levels have acted quickly and decisively to meet this ongoing crisis by taking steps to ameliorate the potentially disastrous impact of the ongoing pandemic. As Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles, you are in a unique position to take steps that will increase public safety and health, ensure that fines and fees are not a barrier to people's basic needs throughout this emergency, and promote the resiliency of our communities.







In light of this ongoing unprecedented emergency, we therefore ask you, as head of the NC Division of Motor Vehicles, to work with the Governor to take immediate action to reduce the harm that the coronavirus and resulting economic catastrophe will impose upon the poorest and most vulnerable North

Carolina residents. In particular, we ask that the NC DMV take the following immediate action:

- 1. Reinstate drivers' licenses that are suspended under NC Gen. Stat. 20-24.1;
- 2. Impose a moratorium on all driver's license revocation proceedings under NC Gen. Stat. 20-24.1;
- 3. Waive the \$65 license restoration fee and \$50 service fee for reinstatement;
- 4. Waive \$200 NC DMV hearing fees

Experts expect the COVID-19 pandemic will last for 18 months.¹ We therefore ask that the proposed actions remain in effect for a reasonable period of time, giving strong consideration to the expert reports warning that the pandemic itself will last until at least September 2021. Doing so will provide much-needed aid to families struggling to weather the financial impact of this pandemic and its aftermath.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

THE NORTH CAROLINA FINES AND FEES COALITION

Daryl Atkinson
Co-Director
Forward Justice

Chantal Stevens
Interim Executive Director
ACLU of North Carolina

Kristen PowersInterim Executive Director
Benevolence Farm

Daniel BowesDirector

NC Justice Center, Fair Chance Project

Don Cavellini Co-Chair Coalition Against Racism

James E. Williams, Jr. Attorney

¹ PANCAP ADAPTED U.S. GOV'T COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN 4 (2020) https://int.nyt.com/data/documenthelper/6819-covid-19-response-plan/d367f758bec47cad361f/optimized/full.pdf#page=1