CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSES AND INSPECTIONS

EMERGENCY REGULATION EXTENDING EXPIRATION DATE OF FOOD ESTABLISHMENT RETAIL – NON-PERMANENT LOCATION LICENSES IN CONNECTION WITH THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

Beginning March 16, 2020, the Mayor and Health Commissioner issued a series of emergency declarations and orders limiting the operations of businesses to prevent the spread of the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). As of March 18, 2020, the City also shut down non-essential operations during this time of crisis. Most recently, on March 22, 2020, the Mayor and the Commissioner jointly issued an Emergency Order Temporarily Prohibiting Operation of Non-Essential Businesses and Congregation of Persons to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19, which the Board of Health adopted as an Emergency Regulation Governing the Control and Prevention of COVID-19 on March 26, 2020.

The Philadelphia Department of Licenses and Inspections (“Department”) recognizes that the COVID-19 Pandemic is unprecedented. The City’s top priority is maintaining public health and the safety of all Philadelphians and those who work and invest in the City, including taking proactive steps helps mitigate a potential community spread.

In accordance with § 6-301(2) of the Philadelphia Health Code, mobile food vendors are required to obtain a Food Establishment Retail, Non-Permanent Location License (“Mobile Food License”). Pursuant to § 6-503(1)(d)(1) of the Philadelphia Health Code, all licenses issued pursuant to the Philadelphia Health Code, including Mobile Food Licenses, expire one year from the date of issuance. The Department recognizes that the Covid-19 Emergency may result in hardships to mobile food vendors. Therefore, relaxing enforcement with respect to Mobile Food Licenses that have expired during this emergency period is in the best interest of the City and the following emergency measure is required:

2. The expiration dates of Food Establishment Retail, Non-Permanent Location Licenses expiring during the Affected Period shall be considered extended for enforcement purposes and the licenses currently held shall remain valid through July 30, 2020.

3. Food Establishment Retail, Non-Permanent Location Licenses that have expired or will expire during the Affected Period and are considered extended pursuant to this Regulation shall retain the original date of issuance and original expiration date for all other purposes. Any subsequent renewal of such licenses shall run from the date such license expired (without regard to the extension period provided in paragraph 2 of this regulation) and shall remain in force for one year from the date of renewal, unless sooner revoked under other applicable provisions.

4. Based on the Mayor’s March 11, 2020, Declaration of Extraordinary Circumstance that allows regulations related to addressing the pandemic to become effective immediately upon transmission to the Department of Records, this emergency regulation shall be effective immediately.

Date: 5/4/2020

David J. Perri, P.E.
Commissioner, City of Philadelphia
Department of Licenses and Inspections