

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET transportation.ky.gov

Andy Beshear Governor Jim Gray Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Naitore Djigbenou 502.782.4829 naitore.djigbenou@ky.gov

> Contact: Chuck Wolfe 502.892.9038 <u>chuck.wolfe@ky.gov</u>

Gov. Beshear Announces Opening of Another KYTC Driver Licensing Regional Office in Jefferson County

Will issue REAL ID-compliant licenses, IDs as well as standard credentials

FRANKFORT, Ky. (June 10, 2021) – Gov. Andy Beshear today announced the opening of a third Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) Driver Licensing Regional Office in Jefferson County, expanding capacity to serve residents of Kentucky's largest metro area interested in obtaining REAL ID or standard-issue credentials.

The office, at 4919 Dixie Highway Suite A, formerly was a branch location of the Jefferson County Office of Circuit Court Clerk. KYTC is taking over the office as part of its phased adoption of driver licensing services for all of Kentucky.

The traditional model of licenses and permits being issued by the Office of Circuit Court Clerk in each county is being phased out gradually statewide and will conclude by June 30, 2022. In its place will be a new, more secure regional model in which licenses, learner permits and ID cards will be issued and renewed by KYTC at Driver Licensing Regional Offices located around the state. Regional offices offer Kentuckians more modern services and user choice, including the flexibility to visit <u>any</u> regional office, regardless of where they live, and the choice of an eight-year driver's license. Twenty counties have made the transition to date.

The Dixie Highway location is the 18th KYTC regional office opened to date. Operating hours for the Dixie Highway office will be Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eastern. It will initially open by appointment only and applicants may make appointments online at <u>drive.ky.gov</u>.

Like the other regional offices, the Dixie Highway location will process applications for REAL ID or standard licenses and ID cards. Kentuckians who require driver testing (primarily first-time cardholders) must successfully do so with the Kentucky State Police before applying at a licensing office.

Application for a REAL ID must be done <u>in person</u> at a KYTC regional office, with proof of identity, residence and social security. For a guide to documents that will be needed, go to <u>drive.ky.gov</u> | IDocument Guide.

KYTC Secretary Jim Gray said no Kentuckian will be required to obtain a REAL ID to operate a motor vehicle. But for air travel in the United States and admission to military bases and many other federal installations, a REAL ID or other form of federally approved identification will be required beginning May 3, 2023.

"I encourage Kentuckians who plan to travel by air in the future, or visit a restricted federal facility, to prepare now and get the proper ID, whether at the Dixie Highway office or any of the other KYTC Driver Licensing Regional Offices," Secretary Gray said.

Those seeking to renew or replace a standard-issue license or ID card can do so by mail or drop-off with the Office of Circuit Court Clerk in the license holder's county of residence, provided there has been no change of name or address and the license holder does <u>not</u> require driver testing by Kentucky State Police. But if testing is required, information is at <u>DRIVER</u> <u>TESTING – kentuckystatepolice.org</u>.

Circuit Court Clerks will be processing mail applications through June 30. Mail-in forms are available at <u>Driver's License Services - Kentucky Court of Justice (kycourts.gov)</u>. Gov. Beshear has encouraged anyone able to renew remotely to do so, thereby limiting person-to-person contact.

Other KYTC regional driver licensing offices are in Bowling Green, Burlington, Catlettsburg, Columbia, Elizabethtown, Frankfort, Jackson, Lexington, Louisville/Bowman Field, Louisville/Hurstbourne, Madisonville, Morehead, Owensboro, Paducah, Prestonsburg, Richmond, and Somerset. The Louisville/Bowman Field office operates by appointment only.

###

