

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM: Westmoreland County Sheriff James Albert

DATE: Thursday, March 27, 2020

I James Albert, Sheriff of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, announce that after a review of that Pennsylvania State Supreme Court Case *Civil Rights Defense Firm, PC, et. al. vs Governor Wolf*, No. 63 MM 2020, and after reviewing an updated list of *Life Sustaining Businesses* published at 2:30 PM on March 24, 2020, that Pennsylvania Governor Thomas Wolfe has declared that federal firearm licensees, currently referred to as gun dealers, constitute life-sustaining businesses, due to the Concurring and Dissenting Statement of Pennsylvania State Supreme Court Justice David Wecht who was joined by State Supreme Court Justices Christine Donahue and Kevin Daugherty in the aforementioned case.

Under Trade, Transportation & Utilities, subsection Retail Trade, sub-section Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, & Music Stores, it now provides:

Except that firearms dealers may operate physical businesses on a limited basis to complete only the portion of a sale/transfer that must be conducted in-person under the law, subject to the following restrictions: 1) all such sale/transfers will be conducted by individual appointment during limited hours only so as to minimize social interactions and congregating of persons; 2) the dealer will comply with social distancing, sanitization of applicable area between appointments, and other mitigation measures to protect its employees and the public.

Therefore, in comporting with the United States Constitution (Article II) as well as the Pennsylvania Constitution (Article 1, § 21), as well as complying with the Governor's Order of March 19, 2020 ("*Order of the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Regarding The Closure Of All Businesses That Are Not Life Sustaining*") and being cognizant of those Orders of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court declaring a statewide judicial emergency, *In Re: General Statewide Judicial Emergency*, 531 & 532 Judicial Administration Docket (Pa. Mar. 18, 2020) and in compliance with that Judicial Emergency Order, docketed at No. 3 of 2020, effective March 17, 2020, (Hathaway, President Judge), I announce today that the Office of the Sheriff of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, will open for the issuance of Gun Permits on a by appointment basis only. This, in compliance with the aforementioned Constitutional Amendments to the United States and Pennsylvania Constitutions, as well as those Declarations of the Governor and subsequent Orders of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and the President Judge of the Tenth Judicial District.

Accordingly, members of the general public may call the Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office at (724)-830-3457, to schedule an appointment to have his/her gun permit renewed, (or a new permit issued to a licensee), after filling out the required forms and passing a PICS background check. If possible, expanded hours may become available to accommodate the Second Amendment rights of all Westmoreland county citizens.

James Albert, Sheriff of Westmoreland County
Basement, Westmoreland County Courthouse
2 North Main Street
Greensburg, PA 15601

9:00 A.M. To 3:00 p.m.
MON. To FRI,
STARTING 30-MARCH-2020