Colonel W. S. (Steve) Flaherty
Superintendent

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# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

Lt. Col. Robert B. Northern
Deputy Superintendent

P. O. BOX 27472, RICHMOND, VA 23261-7472

February 26, 2016

IDAHO STATE POLICE
RECEIVED
FEB 29 2016
Office of the Attorney General

Idaho State Police
Attn: Stephanie A. Altig
700 South Stratford Drive
Meridian, Idaho 83642

Dear Ms. Altig:

On Tuesday, December 22, 2015, the Virginia Attorney General, Mark Herring, announced the results of a yearlong legal analysis of the concealed handgun reciprocity agreements Virginia has maintained with many states. This analysis was to determine if the requirements and qualifications of that state's law are adequate to prevent possession of a permit or license by persons who would be denied a permit in the Commonwealth pursuant to § 18.2-308.14 of the *Code of Virginia*.

As a result of that analysis, the Attorney General determined that Idaho laws were insufficient. A previous letter was sent to you under my signature notifying you of the revocation of Idaho concealed handgun permit reciprocity effective February 1, 2016. On January 29, 2016, I followed up with an additional letter explaining that the Virginia General Assembly and Governor Terry McAuliffe were working together towards a compromise in this matter and extended the time before revoking reciprocity to March 1, 2016.

I am pleased to announce that Governor McAuliffe signed legislation today reflecting landmark bipartisan agreements regarding firearms laws. Two of these bills, House Bill 1163 and Senate Bill 610 (identical bills), make significant changes to the way Virginia accepts non-resident concealed handgun permits.

Specifically, these bills state,

> "A valid concealed handgun or concealed weapon permit or license issued by another state shall authorize the holder of such permit or license who is at least 21 years of age to carry a concealed handgun in the Commonwealth, provided (i) the issuing authority provides the means for instantaneous verification of the validity of all such permits or licenses issued within that state, accessible 24 hours a day if available: (ii) the permit or license holder carries a photo identification issued by a government agency of any state or by the U.S. Department of Defense or U.S. Department of State and displays the permit or license and such identification upon demand by a law-enforcement officer, and (iii) the permit or license holder has not previously had a Virginia concealed handgun permit revoked."

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With the pending legislative changes to concealed handgun reciprocity, I do not believe it is necessary to proceed with the scheduled revocation date of March 1, 2016. The revocation deadline is therefore extended to July 1, 2016, when the new legislation becomes effective.

The full text of the legislation can be found at:

http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?161+ful+SB610ER+hil

http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?ses=161&typ=bil&val=hb1163

Since the reciprocity agreement between our states was never revoked, the existing reciprocity agreement remains in effect.

If you have any further questions regarding reciprocity, please contact First Sergeant Tom Lambert at 804 674-2212 or tom.lambert@vsp.virginia.gov

I appreciate your patience and understanding through this process. I look forward to our continued working relationship in matters of mutual interest.

Sincerely,

Superintendent

TSR/cm

c: Attorney General Mark Herring