WISCONSIN

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

March 19, 2020

DSPS Continues to Serve

Dear DSPS Customer,

At this time, the Department of Safety and Professional Services is continuing to serve our customers during the COVID-19 outbreak. We have closed the counters in all five state offices, and we encourage customers to use online resources, available on our website, to submit materials and requests. Currently the department plans to continue conducting inspections. Attached you will find information on how the Department plans to conducting inspections during the State of Emergency.

We know many of our customers have questions about deadlines and requirements. We are working as quickly as possible to make decisions and communicate answers. For the most up to date information on changes to DSPS operations, please visit <u>www.DSPS.WI.Gov</u>. We appreciate your patience and understanding during these unprecedented times.

We understand that you may have questions or concerns about how we are altering our usual processes and services given the COVID-19 outbreak in Wisconsin and Governor Tony Evers' <u>actions</u> in response to it.

At this time, the Department of Safety and Professional Services will continue to conduct building inspections where required. As long as construction continues at job sites in the state, we have an obligation to ensure the safety of those buildings now and in the future.

However, we recognize the immediate threat to health and safety that COVID-19 presents. Therefore, we are increasing and encouraging the use of video and photo-based inspections in order to limit face-to-face contact. Each individual inspector will determine whether the electronic inspection yields the necessary information to provide approval.

In-person inspections of critical structures, such as healthcare facilities, and complex projects with high risk factors are still encouraged. If an in-person inspection is necessary and cannot be rescheduled, inspectors will operate according to DHS guidelines and will coordinate with building contractors and facility management to minimize risks during inspection.

As you know, this is a rapidly evolving situation. Please visit our <u>website</u> for updates and current information. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we navigate this crisis.

Email: <u>dsps@wisconsin.gov</u> | Phone: (608) 266-2112 | Office Hours: 7:45 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.