

**In re:
SUSPENSION OF STATUTES, RULES
AND ORDERS MADE NECESSARY
BY OUTBREAK OF COVID-19**

DOL NO. 20- 0001

EMERGENCY ORDER

I hereby find that strict compliance with sections 24.105(9)(d) and 24.115(1)(f), F.S., and Rule 53ER17-54(1)(a), (1)(b) and (14)(d), F.A.C., will hinder the Department of the Lottery's ability to take emergency mitigation, response, and recovery action prescribed by the State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, as it relates to COVID-19.

Therefore, pursuant to the authority granted by Executive Order Number 20-52 and effective upon the execution of this Order, I hereby suspend the effect of:

1. Section 24.105(9)(d), F.S., specifies that lottery drawings are to be open to the public. To minimize exposure to COVID-19 and help protect visitors and employees, Lottery Headquarters will be temporarily closed to the public.
2. Section 24.115(1)(f), F.S., specifies that holders of tickets have the right to claim prizes for 180 days after a lottery drawing, or in the case of instant games, the right to claim prizes for 60 days after the end of the game. To minimize exposure to COVID-19 and help protect lottery players, employees and retailers, holders of tickets have the right to claim prizes for 270 days after a lottery drawing, or in the case of instant games, the right to claim prizes for 150 days after the end of the game.
3. Rule 53ER17-54(1)(a), F.A.C., specifies that draw game tickets must be validated at a Lottery office or retailer within 180 days of the winning drawing, or the validated ticket must be submitted within 210 days after the winning drawing if the claimant is not paid at the time of ticket validation. To minimize exposure to COVID-19 and help protect lottery players, employees and retailers, draw game tickets must be validated at a retailer or Lottery office within 270 days after the winning drawing, or the validated ticket must be submitted within 300 days after the winning drawing if the claimant is not paid at the time of ticket validation. In addition, draw game tickets will only be validated at a Lottery retailer or by mailing the ticket to:
 - a. Florida Lottery, Claims Processing, 250 Marriott Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32399-9939, or
 - b. Any Florida Lottery District Office
4. Rule 53ER17-54(1)(b), F.A.C., which specifies that instant win game tickets must be validated at a Lottery office or retailer within 60 days after the official end of game, or within 90 days after the official end of game if the claimant is not paid at the time of ticket validation. To minimize exposure to COVID-19 and help protect lottery players, employees and retailers, instant win game tickets must be validated at a Lottery office or retailer within 150 days after the official end of game, or within 180 days after the official end of game if the claimant is not paid at the time of ticket validation. In addition, instant win game tickets will only be validated at a Lottery retailer or by mailing the ticket to:
 - a. Florida Lottery, Claims Processing, 250 Marriott Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32399-9939, or
 - b. Any Florida Lottery District Office.
5. Rule 53ER17-54(14)(d), F.A.C., which specifies that winning tickets valued at \$600 through \$250,000 may be presented at Lottery district offices for payment and that winning tickets valued at more than \$250,000 must be presented at Lottery Headquarters for payment. To minimize exposure to COVID-19 and help protect lottery players, employees and retailers, claimants who wish to claim prizes on tickets valued at \$600 through \$250,000 may do so by submitting such tickets by mail to:

- a. Florida Lottery, Claims Processing, 250 Marriott Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32399-9939, or
- b. Any Florida Lottery District Office.

In addition, claimants who wish to claim prizes on tickets valued at more than \$250,000, may do so by submitting such tickets by mail to Florida Lottery, Claims Processing, 250 Marriott Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32399-9939.

The Lottery recognizes that some claimants may not want to submit winning tickets by mail to claim prizes. Accordingly, the deadlines for claiming prizes have been extended as set forth in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of this Order. The Lottery is hopeful that the extended deadlines will enable claimants to hold onto their tickets until the Lottery has been able to resume its practice of allowing claimants to present tickets in person to Lottery Headquarters or to a Lottery District Office. However, the Lottery cannot guarantee that claimants will be able to present tickets in person to Lottery Headquarters or a Lottery District Office prior to the expiration of the extended claim deadlines.

Unless this Order is rescinded, it shall remain in effect throughout the remaining duration of Executive Order Number 20-52 and any extensions of it.

NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Pursuant to Section 120.569(2)(n), Florida Statutes, any party adversely affected by this Order has the right to seek an injunction of this Order in circuit court or judicial review of it under Section 120.68, Florida Statutes. Judicial review must be sought by filing a notice of appeal under Rule 9.110 of the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure, with the Clerk of the Department in the Office of General Counsel, 250 Marriott Drive, Tallahassee FL 32301, and by filing a copy of the notice of appeal, accompanied by the applicable filing fees, with the appropriate district court of appeal. The notice of appeal must be filed within thirty (30) days after this Order is filed with the Clerk of the Department.

Executed this 22nd day of March 2020, in Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.

DEPARTMENT OF THE LOTTERY



Samantha Ferrin
Interim Secretary

250 Marriott Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

CERTIFICATE OF FILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Emergency Order has been filed in the official records of the Department of the Lottery this 22nd day of March 2020.


Diane Schmidt, Agency Clerk