

March 18, 2020

Jim Mullen, Acting Administrator
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

BEFORE THE FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

PETITION OF THE NATIONAL WASTE & RECYCLING ASSOCIATION

**FOR RELIEF FROM DRUG TESTING AND DRIVER PHYSICALS DURING THE DECLARED
NATIONAL EMERGENCY RELATED TO COVID 19**

The National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA) submits this request on behalf of the waste and recycling industry pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 381.300 et seq. petitioning for relief on expiring commercial driver licenses, guidance on drug testing, and extensions be granted for expiring physicals.

NWRA members are experiencing state department of motor vehicles closing or limiting hours that have impacted our drivers whose licenses are about to expire. We ask that FMCSA issue guidance to states to extend about to expire commercial driver licenses.

As the healthcare system is being pushed to its breaking point, NWRA members are having healthcare facilities, that under normal circumstances would conduct their DOT physicals and drug testing, turn away our workers due to limited capacity as they respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have one instance were a healthcare facility proactively notified a member that the healthcare facility will not be doing DOT physicals for at least 6 weeks. Also, another member had a healthcare provider cancel their scheduled onsite random drug testing do to capacity issues related to COVID-19.

Thank you for your consideration to enable our industry and the trucking industry as whole to continue operations through this pandemic.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Darrell K. Smith, PhD
President & CEO