



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 29th, 2021

Media Release Monroe County Clerk Jamie Warns of DMV Appointment Scam

March 29th, 2021 (Rochester, NY) This morning, Monroe County Clerk Jamie Romeo issued an advisory for Monroe County residents that DMV appointments are not for sale, and the Clerk's Office continues to operate Online DMV Portal for anyone with questions timely DMV needs its or at https://www.monroecounty.gov/dmv-contact.

Since reopening in June 2020 DMVs across New York State continue to operate under Governor Cuomo's Executive Order, requiring the implementation of appointment only-systems to remain open to the public. Averaging 915 appointments per day, Monroe County DMVs continue to balance the needs of access to public service, while taking into account remaining public health concerns due to the local community spread of COVID-19.

"Last week it was brought to my office's attention that DMV appointments are being sold to residents, as some look to exploit others looking for help. I want to make it clear, buying an appointment will not get you into a DMV; we would much rather have you contact our office directly. We consider this a potential fraud and have reported it to the Rochester Office of the State Attorney General. We will continue to monitor our system as we continue to look for efficiencies and opportunities to increase appointment slots while rooting out these abuses." Monroe County Clerk Jamie Romeo stated.

Recently, Monroe County DMVs shifted more resources for in-person transactions to meet the growing need for services. With the growing demand for private vehicle registrations, Clerk Romeo again called on the State to open up new online transactions to all New Yorkers, not only those residing in State-run DMV counties.

Last September, Governor Cuomo's office announced new online transactions for DMVs would begin pilot programs, including private vehicle registrations. <u>https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-dmv-expand-online-services</u>