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Wichita, Mission driver licensing offices open for four more Mondays, 3,091 people served to date

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TOPEKA Kansans will have four more weeks to take advantage of Monday operating hours at the state's two largest driver licensing offices.

Through Aug. 26, the driver licensing offices in Wichita and Mission will be open 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Since July 8 when the hours took effect 3,091 people have come through the offices on Monday, including 138 who were taking driving tests which take about three times as long as a simple renewal.

In addition to the offices' normal summer increase in business, driver licensing offices had more people come in to state offices from January to May this year to renew, reissue or get a new concealed carry permit than in all of 2012. From January to May of this year, state driver licensing offices have processed 18,194 concealed carry licenses transactions compared to 17,901 in all of 2012.

"Summer is always a busy time in our driver licensing offices, but this year it has been particularly busy," said Vehicle Director Donna Shelite. "Monday hours at our busiest offices helped shorten lines the rest of the week last year, and it is helping again this year."

Currently, the additional hours are only available at the Mission, 6507 Johnson Drive, and Twin Lakes, 1823 W. 21st St. North, locations.

The state switched to longer four-day work weeks in 1984.

To help manage the lines at the state's largest offices, the Kansas Department of Revenue has also installed a line management system that allows people to secure a place in line without first coming into the office.

To join the line people can use their cell phone to text 714-333-1234 or 626-609-1234 with Mission DL, Olathe DL, Topeka DL, Andover DL, Manhattan DL or Wichita DL. They can also sign in online from a web browser from <http://ksrevenue.org/qless.html>.

Once they have a place in line, people can roam freely while they wait, allowing them to stay at work or run errands instead of having to sit and wait in the office. The system will

send them updates via text alerting them as their number progresses to the front of the line.