



**DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND CONSUMER FINANCE
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

In the Matter of:

**License Applications and Renewals for
Consumer Finance Licensees**

**ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONER
REQUIRING CONVERSION
TO ELECTRONIC SURETY BONDS**

THIS DAY this cause came on for consideration by the Commissioner of the Mississippi Department of Banking and Consumer Finance (the Department), and the Commissioner having considered the matter, and being fully informed and advised in the premises, finds as follows:

1. Section 81-1-135(1) of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, provides the Commissioner of the Mississippi Department of Banking and Consumer Finance with the authority to require consumer industry licensees to participate in a multistate licensing system.
2. Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. Section 81-1-135(4), all consumer finance licensees are required to “utilize the multistate licensing system for application, renewal, amendment, surrender and any other activity as the commissioner may require, and shall pay all applicable charges to utilize the multistate licensing system.”
3. Consistent with Section 81-1-135(4), pursuant to previous notifications issued by the Department, all consumer finance industry licensees have been fully transitioned to the Nationwide Multistate Licensing System (NMLS), a secure web-based system created by state regulators to provide efficiencies in the processing of state licenses and to improve supervision of state-regulated industries.
4. Through NMLS, entities maintain a single record which they use to apply for, maintain, renew, and surrender licenses to authorities in one or more states. NMLS also contains functionality for the submission of electronic surety bonds and criminal background checks as required by state law.

5. On or near November 14, 2023, the Department began transitioning consumer finance licensees from paper surety bonds to the electronic surety bond platform maintained through NMLS. This transition applies to all consumer finance licensees who are statutorily required to maintain a surety bond. A complete transition of all such consumer finance licensees to electronic surety bonds will be conducted utilizing the following conversion schedule:

First Transition began on November 14, 2023:	Title Pledge Lenders Credit Availability Lenders Check Cashers
Second Transition to begin on November 1, 2024:	Consumer Loan Brokers Small Loan Lenders Debt Management Providers Money Transmitters
Third Transition to begin on November 1, 2025:	Pawnbrokers

6. Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. Section 81-1-135(3)(d), the Commissioner “may establish, by rule, regulation, or order, requirements as necessary, including, but not limited to . . . any other activity as the commissioner deems necessary for participation in the multistate licensing system.”

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that consumer finance licensees shall convert to the NMLS electronic surety bond functionality as follows:

- a. Title Pledge Lenders, Credit Availability Lenders and Check Cashers shall submit electronic surety bonds through NMLS as previously directed by the Department on or near November 14, 2023;
- b. Consumer Loan Brokers, Small Loan Lenders, Debt Management Providers, and Money Transmitters shall convert to electronic surety bonds through NMLS beginning November 1, 2024; and
- c. Pawnbrokers shall convert to electronic surety bonds through NMLS beginning November 1, 2025.

SO ORDERED, this the 29th day of July, 2024.

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF
BANKING AND CONSUMER FINANCE



Rhoshunda G. Kelly
Commissioner