

# MEMORANDUM



**To:** Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commissioners  
**From:** Col. Curtis Brown, Director Division of Law Enforcement  
**Date:** April 19, 2017  
**Subject:** Consent Agenda Item - Temporary Certificate Rule Change

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**Purpose:**

Staff will proposed amending the current language found in Rule 68D-36.108 F.A.C. to allow for an online version of the Florida Boater Education Temporary Certificate Examination.

**Summary:**

There has been support for an online version of the Florida Boater Education Temporary Certificate examination for several years. Supporters include the boating education industry, contract vendors as well as FWC staff. With today's computer technology, staff propose to modernize the process and have private vendors offer an online version of the temporary certificate examination. This option will make taking the temporary certificate examination more convenient and accessible for both liveries and customers alike.

Current contract vendors are issuing approximately 200,000 paper temporary certificate tests each year. The availability of an online test option would allow for the eventual phasing out of the written test, resulting in cost reduction to the agency and more efficient service to the public. Vendors have expressed a need for an online option that would better serve their customers by saving them time and providing a better guest experience.

Stakeholders most affected by this change are livery business owners and online boater education providers, both of which have expressed their support for this rule change.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Approve staff request to publish the draft rule amendment and file it for adoption unless an additional hearing is requested.

**Staff Contact and/or Presenter:**

Major Robert Rowe, Boating and Waterways Section Leader, Division of Law Enforcement