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**To:** [DOF-ALL EMPLOYEES](#)  
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Good morning everyone;

The Branch this week has a couple reminders that we are slowly returning to normal operations. First is the announcement of three new employees who will be starting on June 10th. COVID-19 restrictions will make it more difficult for them to get to meet other people in the agency this summer so please take any opportunity you can to reach out to them and make them feel welcome. And there are some photos in the Branch of recent retirements for Blair Dalton, Henry Womack, and Gwynn Tyler. These three made careers at VDOF and we wish them well as they move on to the next phase of their lives.

For the rest of us that already started and can't yet retire, it's another week living the dream. Which for now includes wearing a facemask when working with others or while in public so please remember to do that. Here is the message from Governor Northam that sums it up pretty well.

*“Science shows that face coverings are an effective way to prevent transmission of the virus, but wearing them is also a sign of respect. This is about doing the right thing to protect the people around us and keep everyone safe, especially as we continue to slowly lift public health restrictions in our Commonwealth.”*

The forecast is calling for a taste of summer this week, be careful in the heat and stay safe.

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