



DMV Updates

Laurel Whitney

BFO has a New Phone Number

The Bureau of Field Operations Regional Office in Tampa has a new phone number: (813)612-7110.

ELT Lien Satisfactions

As excerpted from DMV Advisory T09-01:

Currently, when the lien for an electronic title is satisfied, the lien holder and the department send letters to the owner notifying him/her that the lien has been satisfied and instructing him/her how to obtain their title.

To reduce redundancy and ensure the effective use of taxpayer resources, effective January 15, 2009, the department is discontinuing the mailing of these letters. Instead, the department will seek partnerships with financial institutions to increase public awareness as

we educate customers of the benefits of electronic titles.

We will continue to encourage owners to maintain their titles electronically to eliminate the risk of loss and paying title fees to obtain a duplicate. It is also an effective fraud deterrent because potential thieves will not have access to the title.

Vehicle owners may still obtain a paper title by visiting or contacting their local tax collector's office or visiting DMV's website at <http://www.flhsmv.gov/html/emt.htm>.

Electronic Temporary Tag System

DMV has updated RS-31, Temporary License Plates, with additional information to help tax collector offices assist you when the ETR system is down.

As you know, we are required to supply pre-printed temporary license plates to you for use when there is an ETR outage. We now have access to a web link to check the ETR system status during an extended outage.

Please note our computer system has a limitation of issuing a maximum of 25 pre-printed temporary license plates per transaction. This is not a limitation on the number of pre-printed temporary license plates that can be issued to you; however, the service fee will apply to each transaction.

ETR vendors are no longer required to enter a net weight, GVW weight, BHP, CC, or length when creating a vehicle that is being issued the temporary plate. Also, any changes made by the ETR vendor to these fields on a registration created for an existing vehicle are not reflected on the DMV database. In addition, the system will now cancel an ETR registration when a second ETR plate is issued to the same VIN.

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Committed to citizen-centered government

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World-class service, anytime, any place

Tips to Serve you Better

Sonja Kouimanis

I have been working as Primary Dealer clerk and wanted to pass along some ideas and information that I have found to be helpful to dealers.

Fast Title Authorization Letter - Many dealers still submit Fast Title Authorization Affidavits with each title they submit for their customers. Per TL46, VII, dealers are NOT required to have authorization or a power of attorney from their customer to pick up a fast title on behalf of the customer. Instead, the dealer must provide a letter on letterhead stationary which names all persons authorized to pick up fast titles on the dealer's behalf. This letter will be maintained by the tag office for all future fast title pick ups.

Error affidavits must be on dealer letterhead and should include a perjury clause or notarization, dealer signature and date.

You can have a stop placed on customers' vehicle registrations if they failed to pay you for their registration. See DMV Procedure RS-50 II F at <http://www3.hsmv.state.fl.us/Intranet/dmv/Manuals/DMVProcedures/BTR/rs/RS-50.pdf> for instructions.

If a vehicle has a net weight of over 5000 lbs. the GVW (gross vehicle weight) must be declared in Section 2 of form 82040. The registration fee is determined by the GVW and we cannot process the registration without it.

Please do not put an out of state title number in section #2 of form 82040. That space is reserved for Florida title numbers. Likewise, you do not need to enter out of state driver license numbers in section 1; that space is for Florida driver license numbers.

Please complete the FEID number for businesses in section 1 of 82040. You can obtain it from the customer or by searching www.sunbiz.org. On Sunbiz' home page, click on Document Searches, then Corporation/Trademark/LLP/LC, then Inquire by Entity Name. Enter the name, click on search, then click on the name when it comes up. The entity details will include the FEID number.

For lienholders, enter either the DMV account number or FEID number along with the two digits after FEID. Some lienholders have over 50 DMV accounts and it's very time consuming to find the correct account.

Please submit work to us in an envelope, instead of stapled together on in a file folder. Checks can be lost this way. And finally, please sign and date the book every time you pick up work.

Following these tips will help us process your work more quickly and more accurately. ☺

New Specialty Plates Available in Our Offices

These specialty plates are an additional \$27.00 plus a one-time \$12.00 plate replacement fee.



Visit our Lights - benefiting the Florida Lighthouse Assn.



Play Tennis – benefiting the US Tennis Association, Florida Section Foundation

Look for In God We Trust and Horse Country plates this summer.



DMV Dealer Update

Gary W. Konopka, Region VI Administrator
DMV Bureau of Field Operations

All of us here at Region VI hope you had a Happy Holiday season. Our office telephone system was recently replaced and we have new phone numbers. The new Region VI phone number is 813-612-7110 and our new fax number is 813-612-7111.

We have been notified that the Nova Casualty Company will no longer be providing surety bonds to independent and salvage dealers. Those independent and salvage dealers who currently have a surety bond provided by Nova will have to seek a surety bond from another provider as Nova does not intend to renew them.

All independent, auction, salvage, and wholesale motor vehicle dealer licenses expire on April 30, 2009. Although DMV HQ normally sends out renewal reminders, the dealer is in fact responsible for renewing his/her license. Non-receipt of the DMV HQ's renewal letter is not an acceptable excuse for failure to renew. The renewal form is available from any Compliance Officer or the Region HQs. It is also available at <http://www.hsmv.state.fl.us/html/forms.html>. The form number is HSMV 86720. Per F.S. 320.27(4)(a), the renewal form and required supporting documents are to be submitted to the DMV Region HQs no later than April 1st. The following must be submitted:

License renewal application for independent, wholesale, and auction dealers, with \$75 renewal fee for the primary location and \$50 for each supplemental location. If the completed application, all required documents, and fee are not received for the primary location by April 30th, a \$100 delinquent fee is due for a total renewal fee of \$175. Checks must be made payable to DHSMV.

An original surety bond, original irrevocable letter of credit, or original continuation certificate in the amount of \$25,000. The dealership's principal must sign the surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit.

Proof of garage liability insurance which must include, at a minimum, \$25,000 combined single limit liability coverage including bodily injury and property damage protection and \$10,000 personal injury protection or a general liability policy coupled with a business automobile policy which must include, at a minimum,

\$25,000 combined single-limit liability coverage including bodily injury and property damage protection and \$10,000 personal injury protection. The signature of the insurance agent is required on all insurance policies.

Copy of certification from the Division of Corporations showing current registration of the business and fictitious name(s) (online access at www.sunbiz.org).

Independent dealers must also furnish proof (certificate of completion) that a dealer principal or a full-time employee who holds a responsible management level position has attended either the initial dealer training seminar since May 1, 2007 or has completed a Continuing Education Course within two years of their last Continuing Education Course. Information on DMV Licensed Dealer Training Schools can be found at: <http://www.flhsmv.gov/DMV/FORMS/BFO/86056.PDF#PAGE=13>. ☞

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Electronic Titles

Customers will now be allowed to choose to have an electronic title as long as there is no lien against the vehicle. This option applies to original titles, Florida title transfers and title corrections. Titles with non-ELT liens will always be paper; titles with ELT liens will always be electronic unless specifically requested by the bank to be converted to paper. If your customer would like an e-title and there is no lien, please print "e-title" on the top upper left of the title application form, HSMV 82040.

New Address Requirements

In order to meet the requirements of the Real ID Act, any time a change is made to a customer's address the following will apply:

- An individual will be required to have both a mailing address and a residence address. Residence addresses for business customers will continue to be optional.
- The mailing address and residence address for individual customers must be within the US or a US territory. Business customers may continue to have a foreign address for either the mailing or residence address.
- If an individual has a commercial driver license, his residence address must be within Florida. ☞

Saving the Sight of Children is as easy as jumping rope!



March is Prevent Blindness Month!

Laurel Whitney

Diane Nelson, Pinellas County Tax Collector, is proud to participate in the 9th Annual Sight-Saver Campaign March 1-31, 2009, which promotes contributions of \$1.00 or more to Prevent Blindness Florida.

Prevent Blindness Florida has been the state's premiere sight-saving organization since 1957. Their mission is to prevent blindness and preserve sight, which they accomplish through vision screening for pre-school children, glaucoma screening for at-risk adults, free eye exams and glasses for children and other vital activities.

Please help us with this worthwhile cause by taking a moment to contribute to Prevent Blindness Florida next time you stop by your local tag office. Every dollar makes a difference! 🗳️

Upcoming Calendar of Events

- April 7 Motor Vehicle Dealer Forms Seminar
- April 8 Vessel Dealer Forms Seminar
- April 9 Mobile Home Dealer Forms Seminar
- April 10 Towing & Storage Lien Seminar
- May 25 Closed for Memorial Day
- June 9 Motor Vehicle Dealer Forms Seminar
- June 10 Vessel Dealer Forms Seminar
- June 11 Mobile Home Dealer Forms Seminar

As a friendly reminder, we're reprinting an article from the September 2006 Dealer Connection regarding sales tax on trade-ins:

Third Party Trade-ins and What You Need to Know About Sales Tax

Ben Hagenlocher

We have recently obtained a ruling from the Department of Revenue's Executive Director regarding trade-in vehicles and their effect on sales tax due.

There is no provision in Section 212.02(16), F.S. or Section 212.09, F.S., or Rule 12A-1.007(1), F.A.C., that requires that a motor vehicle accepted in trade on the purchase of another new or used motor vehicle has to be titled in the name of the party making the purchase. Therefore, a third party may offer its vehicle as a trade-in on the purchase of a vehicle by another related or unrelated party, so long as the purchase and trade-in are structured as a single transaction. In order for the purchase and trade-in to be considered a single transaction, the third party owning the vehicle being offered as a trade-in must assign the title directly to the motor vehicle dealer making the sale, and such vehicle must be identified on the sales contract as the trade-in vehicle.

The bottom line is the person buying the vehicle does **NOT** have to be the titled owner of the trade-in vehicle to receive credit on taxes due.

If you have any questions please call our E-service Center at 464-7777. 📞

Customer Feedback Surveys

The Tax Collector's Office recently sent out surveys to the entire dealer community as part of our effort to improve various aspects of the service we provide to you. We will use your feedback to initiate our improvement efforts, so please speak up and tell us what we can do to make your visit better.

These surveys will be sent to you on a regular basis so that we can continuously improve and track our level of service to you. We appreciate your input and look forward to hearing from you.