

2010 Dealer Class Schedule

Classes will be held at the Training Center at the Mid County Service Center, located at 13025 Starkey Road, Largo FL 33773, unless noted otherwise. The time frame for each class is from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Motor Vehicle	January 26 th April 20 th	August 25 th December 7 th
Vessel	April 21 st	December 8 th
Mobile Home	April 22 nd	December 9 th
Towing & Storage		August 26 th

For reservations, contact Cathy Bailey Noble at 727-464-5549 or at cnoble@taxcollect.com. ☎

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Dealer Connection is a quarterly publication of the Pinellas County Tax Collector, 315 Court Street, Clearwater, FL 33756.

Committed to citizen-centered government



The author at South County's new dealer window

New Dealer Location at South County

Phyllis Brown

The South County Dealer Department has moved to a new location. To find us, enter at the front door and go to station 23 to your left. For your convenience, there is no need to stop at the Reception Desk.

Dealers can park in the new dealer parking spaces closest to the front entrance rather than riding around looking for a parking space. Look for signs marked **“Reserved Dealers Only”**.

Dealer Comments:

Michael Capestany “loves the new convenient parking”.

Roxanne Wissler: “The parking is great and the new dealer section allows the dealer to see the rest of the office”.

Laura Hinkson: “The parking is great, more convenient and the dealers are not double parking any more. What a great improvement South County has made”.

Please come and visit us soon. ☎

DMV Dealer Update

Gary W. Konopka, Region VI Administrator

We would like to take this opportunity to wish Happy Holidays to all of those we come into contact with.

We have encountered some recent consumer complaint situations where our dealers have run afoul of the provisions of F.S. 501.976(10) as it pertains to deposits. That Statute is entitled: **“Actionable, unfair, or deceptive acts or practices”** and this portion states: “It is an unfair or deceptive act or practice, actionable under the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act, for a dealer to: (10) Require or accept a deposit from a prospective customer prior to entering into a binding contract for the purchase and sale of a vehicle unless the customer is given a written receipt that states how long the dealer will hold the vehicle from other sale and the amount of the deposit, and clearly and conspicuously states whether and upon what conditions the deposit is refundable or nonrefundable.” This statute is enforced by the Attorney General’s Office as well as by us.

One recent legislative change that may have been overlooked involves Recreational Vehicle Dealers. F.S. 320.771(10) was changed effective May 28, 2009 and it now allows RV dealers to sell RVs on consignment.

We are still encountering dealers who do not understand that they MUST issue temporary tags electronically and must sign up with an authorized Electronic Temporary Registration (ETR) vendor. The vendor list can be found at <http://www.flhsmv.gov/etr/etr-vendor.html>.

The physical inspections of all rebuilt and assembled from parts vehicles are done ONLY at our Region Headquarters at 5701 E. Hillsborough Ave. in Tampa. They are NOT done in the field. That inspection is not a safety inspection – the rebuilder or vehicle assembler is the one who certifies the vehicle is roadworthy, not us. Our inspection is to assure the vehicle’s identity.

Many of our dealers are incorporated. Anytime there is a change to a dealer’s corporation, that change must be promptly reported to us. This includes changes involving corporate name, address, officers, etc.

All franchise motor vehicle dealer licenses expire on December 31, 2009. We can actually start renewing these dealers as early as November 2, 2009, The renewal form, HSMV Form 86720, is available from our

office as well as online at <http://www.flhsmv.gov/dmv/forms/BFO/86720.pdf>

Please ensure that a dealership officer signs page 2/back side of the renewal form.

320.0609(2)(c), F.S., was recently changed and what follows was effective October 1, 2009: “If a retail sale by a licensed independent motor vehicle dealer results in the transfer of a registration license plate, a temporary tag shall be issued and displayed during the time that the application for transfer of such registration license plate is being processed unless the department’s records reflect that the transfer has occurred. However, this paragraph shall not apply to independent motor vehicle dealers that are owned by principals that also hold a franchise motor vehicle dealer license in this state.”

Reminder

Form 86066, Notice of Discharge of Repossession Recovery Attempt, is not available online. We have some available in our offices or you can make copies. 📄

Odometer Disclosures: Actual mileage box

Benjamin Hagenlocher

As you may have noticed in the past few years, there are three odometer reading boxes appearing on vehicle titling documents. The “actual mileage” box is required to be checked when an odometer disclosure is being made on a vehicle with actual mileage. Please be aware that when this box is present on the titling documents and it is not checked on vehicles with actual mileage, your work will be returned to you as this is considered an odometer omission. If you have any questions regarding this information or need further assistance, please call our e-Service center at (727)464-7777. 📞

ODOMETER DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	
<small>WARNING: Federal and State law requires that you state the mileage in connection with an application for Certificate of Title. Failure to complete or providing a false statement may result in fines and/or imprisonment.</small>	
WE STATE THAT THIS <input type="checkbox"/> 5 or <input type="checkbox"/> 6 DIGIT ODOMETER NOWS READS _____, _____ XX (NO TENTHS) MILES, DATE READ ____/____/____ AND WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE THE ODOMETER READING _____	
<small>CAUTION: Read carefully before checking a box.</small>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. REFLECTS ACTUAL MILEAGE.	<input type="checkbox"/> 2. IS IN EXCESS OF ITS MECHANICAL LIMITS. (EXCESS OF ITS MECHANICAL LIMITS APPLIES TO 5 DIGIT ODOMETERS)
<input type="checkbox"/> 3. IS NOT THE ACTUAL MILEAGE. WARNING – ODOMETER DISCREPANCY	

DMV Updates

Laurel Whitney

RS-26, Dealer and Manufacturer License Plates, was recently revised to comply with changes to 320.13 (2), F.S.:

Manufacturer license plates are valid for use on motor vehicles owned by the manufacturer, importer, or distributor to whom such plates are issued while the motor vehicles are in inventory and for sale, or while being operated for demonstration purposes or in connection with their business. Manufacturer license plates are not valid for use on for hire motor vehicles. (They) may be issued to any manufacturer, importer, or distributor with a valid Florida manufacturer, importer, or distributor license.

VSTL-25, Vessel Certificate Of Title Upon Disposition Of Personal Property Under The Nonjudicial Proceedings For Nonpayment Of Storage Charges, was revised to comply with 328.17(10), F.S.: "Before any sale or other disposition of the vessel pursuant to this section, the owner or the lienholder may pay the amount necessary to satisfy the lien and the reasonable expenses and late payment interest incurred under this section and thereby redeem and take possession of the vessel. Upon receipt of such payment, the marina shall return the property to the owner or lienholder making such payment and thereafter shall have no liability to any person with respect to such vessel." The procedure also clarifies the requirement for a lien satisfaction for any liens and states that if the lien satisfaction cannot be obtained, the lien shall be carried forward and assumed by the new purchaser.

RS-63, Trailers, now states the following:

A regular or permanent registration may be issued to (a) semi-trailer. However, to qualify for a permanent registration, the semi trailer must be drawn by a GVW truck tractor by means of a 5th wheel arrangement, as stated in section 320.08(5)(a)(2), Florida Statutes. The permanent license plate is not renewed and is non-transferable. It may only be used/displayed on the trailer it is issued to and is not included in the forced replacement program; therefore, no Advance Replacement Fee is collected.

OFFICE TRAILER is a mobile building, used to conduct

normal office duties, duly approved as meeting applicable codes, may or may not be affixed permanently to a foundation and may be removed after completion of a task for which it was installed. The weight of an office trailer is determined by multiplying length X width X 20 pounds. For-hire office trailers are class code 54.

A tow dolly does not require registration nor does the vehicle it is transporting. However, the towing vehicle must be currently registered.

A converter gear does not require registration; however, both vehicles coupled to the gear must be registered.

A blank bill of sale now prints on registrations for trailers with a net weight of 1,999 lbs. or less. When the customer sells the trailer, he/she may use this area to transfer ownership.

The procedure also states that trailer dealers who sell trailers weighing 1,999 lbs. or less do not need a dealer license, regardless of the number of trailers they sell. However, trailer dealers who sell trailers which weigh 2,000 lbs. or more are required to obtain a dealer license when they sell 25 or more trailers per year.

A new procedure was written for refunds. **RS-65, Refunds for License Plates, Decals or Initial Registration Fees**, lists four circumstances where a license tax may be refunded:

- The license plate or decal has been surrendered prior to the effective date of registration.
- Two registrations were issued on the same motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel.
- The Initial Registration Fee may be granted to the owner of a motor vehicle who, within 3 months of paying the fee, sells, transfers, or otherwise disposes of a vehicle registered in their name.
- An error was made when the registration transaction was originally processed causing incorrect fees to be

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Starting Jan 1, 2010: New Driver License & ID Card Requirements

Learn what to bring and save a second trip!
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charged or an incorrect motor vehicle to be renewed.

NOTE: If a motor vehicle is traded into a dealership and the dealer requests a new license plate be issued rather than transferring the license plate from the old motor vehicle, the owner must surrender the new license plate along with an accurately completed form HSMV 83363. FRVIS must be updated to reflect the previous license plate on the newly acquired motor vehicle.

Changes were also made to **TL-09, Odometer Disclosure and Declaration Requirements**. Two exceptions have been made to odometer disclosure exemptions and are noted as follows:

NOTE: Some exceptions that would require an odometer declaration, not a disclosure, are:

- When an MCO is assigned to a dealership and the dealership chooses to take title in its name.
- When a dealership transfers a new motor vehicle to another dealership and that dealership chooses to take title in its name.

In addition, vessel registrations will no longer be prorated. Original registrations and transfers of registration ownership will charge the full 12 month amount of base tax, county registration fee, county retained commercial fee or county retained vessel fee for a vessel being registered for 1 – 12 tax months. The 12 month value of these fees will be doubled for vessel registrations with 13-24 tax months. The 12 month value of these fees will be tripled for vessel registrations with 25-27 tax months.

Finally, whenever a vehicle has been branded on NMVTIS (the National Motor Vehicle Database) as a clunker the system will not allow any title transaction. These vehicles must be issued a Certificate of Destruction. 🚗

Autism Plate Now Available

The newest specialty plate supports autism programs through Achievement and Rehabilitations Centers, Inc. The fee is \$30.00 plus a one-time \$28.00 replacement fee.



A Message from Diane

I'm sending my warmest Holiday Greetings to our extended "family" of professional dealers, to your employees, and to your loved ones.

I've worked in this office for nearly four decades and had the opportunity to personally wait on many of you in the early years of my career. I know how special you are to my employees, and how many of you are on a first-name basis with each other.

I'm very happy for this friendly working relationship, and I feel a little like the Grinch when I have to remind you not to bring personal gifts to these public employees. It's your custom with other business partners, I know, and certainly in keeping with the spirit of the season, but we have a strict code of ethics that prohibits it.

Here's hoping that 2009 has been a prosperous and healthy year for you, and that 2010 will be the best year ever!



Don't Forget Our Survey!

We have a survey intended just for dealers at www.taxcollect.com. Simply click on *Licensed Dealers, Dealer Survey*, and fill it in at your convenience. This survey should only take a few minutes of your time but will provide valuable information to help us improve our service to you.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

December 1	Motor Vehicle Dealer Forms Seminar
December 25	Closed for the Christmas Holiday
January 1	Closed for the New Year's Holiday
January 18	Closed for Martin Luther King Day
January 26	Motor Vehicle Dealer Forms Seminar
February 15	Closed for In Service Training