

Dealer Connection



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Procedural changes to military-related license plates

Cherice Bravieri

Purple Heart and Pearl Harbor Survivor License Plates may now be issued as exempt from the base tax and initial registration fee to customers who meet the qualifications for Disabled Veterans license plates. In order to receive this reduced rate, the applicant must also submit a letter or card issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or the Veterans Administration office, stating that the veteran has a service-connected disability evaluated at 100%. Purple Heart applicants must also submit proof that they are a Purple Heart recipient and Pearl Harbor applicants must submit proof of active duty in Pearl Harbor on December 7th, 1941. A qualified customer may have only one of these license plates at the reduced rate.

In addition, plate availability has changed for certain trucks. Ex-POW and Purple Heart plates are limited to automobiles, motor homes or truck campers and private use trucks weighing 7,999 net lbs. or less. For National Guard, U.S. Reserve, Pearl Harbor Survivor and Medal of Honor plates, private use trucks must weight 5,000 lbs. or less.

For more information, refer to RS-15 in the DMV Procedures Manual. 🚗



DMV Procedural requirements worth noting

Laurel Swim

Signature Requirements on Title Applications

DMV Procedures TL-01, Signature Requirements and Identity Affidavits, and TL-09, Odometer Disclosure and Declaration Requirements, and the Code of Federal Regulations, 49 CFR s. 580.5 (c) and (f), require that title applications be signed by both the transferor and the transferee, including their printed names. Before bringing in your work, please review it to make sure all applicable names have been printed where required.

Flood Damaged Vehicles brought in from another state

TL-06, Mandatory Use Designations and Brands on Florida Certificates of Title, states if an out of state title is branded "Flood Damage", the brand will carry forward on the new Florida title. If the title has been physically stamped,

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Clarification on Chevy Avalanche, Cadillac Escalade EXT and Ford Sport Trac

Laurel Swim

As a reminder, DMV's position on the classification of Avalanches, Escalade EXTs and Sport Tracs is as follows:

After reviewing Florida Statutes, DMV Procedures, previous legal opinions and consulting with other states, of which 85% title and register these vehicles as a truck, the department has agreed to continue our policy of registering the following vehicles as pickups or trucks according to their weight: Chevy Avalanche, Cadillac Escalade EXT and Ford Sport Trac. We have contacted the Chevrolet manufacturer and are contacting other manufacturers to ask for their assistance in clarifying this information on their MCO'S. Until then, place this information on the application for title. Additional Information: Florida Statute 320.01(10) reads, Heavy truck means any motor vehicle with a net vehicle weight of more than 5,000 pounds, which is registered on the basis of gross vehicle weight in accordance with s. 320.08(4), and which is designed or used for the carriage of goods or designed or equipped with a connecting device for the purpose of drawing a trailer that is attached or coupled thereto by means of such connecting device and includes any such motor vehicle to which has been added a cabinet box, a platform, a rack, or other equipment for the purpose of carrying goods other than the personal effects of the passengers. This definition includes pickup trucks 5,001 pounds and more. These vehicles will be titled using TR as the Vehicle type, TK as the body type and the Reg Use will be FY. These will be class code 41. Florida Statute 320.01 (9), reads, Truck means

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however, the applicant must comply with TL-37, Application for . . . Rebuilt Motor Vehicle, Mobile Home or Motorcycle Previously Declared Salvage or Junk. Rebuilt applications must be submitted to and approved by a DMV Compliance Examiner before processing at a Tax Collector's office.

Proper use of dealer and manufacturer plates

Reminder: dealer/manufacturer plates may not be used by wholesale dealers with a VW license, or by manufacturers with license prefix of MR, MV, MD, or MI.

Heavy trucks

When determining the gross vehicle weight on heavy trucks, remember the 8,000 lb. cutoff. If a truck weighs more than 5,000 lbs., but less than 8,000 lbs., the gross weight does not include any attachments they may be towing, such as a boat trailer. Rather, it is the empty weight of the truck plus the maximum load it will carry.

For trucks 8,000 lbs. and over, the total gross weight is calculated by adding the gross weight of the truck plus the gross weight of the trailer or any other attachment. For further information, refer to RS-45 in the DMV Procedure Manual. ☞

A reminder from our dealer supervisors

In order to provide the most efficient service possible to you, the dealer supervisors ask that you continue to limit your express, or walk-through, work to emergency transactions. This allows them to process your drop off work faster and increase their turnaround time for everyone.

We appreciate your continued cooperation. ☞



Did you know . . . ?

Exception to partial exemption for non-residents

Laurel Swim

The following is an excerpt from the Florida Department of Revenue's Tip #02A01-08:

Current Florida law grants a partial exemption to a nonresident purchaser who buys a motor vehicle in Florida. The nonresident buyer must pay Florida sales tax in an amount equal to any sales tax that would be imposed by the nonresident's home state, as long as the amount paid does not exceed Florida's 6 percent rate. The nonresident purchaser is required to execute an Affidavit for Partial Exemption of Motor Vehicle Sold for Licensing in Another State (Form DR-123).

New Law Limits This Exemption

Beginning July 1, 2002, the partial exemption for a motor vehicle sold in Florida to a nonresident purchaser does not apply to a nonresident corporation or partnership when:

- *An officer of the corporation is a Florida resident;*
- *A stockholder who owns a least 10 percent of the corporation is a Florida resident; or*
- *A partner who has at least a 10 percent ownership in the partnership is a Florida resident.*

The partial exemption will continue to apply if the vehicle is removed from Florida within 45 days after purchase and remains outside this state for a minimum of 180 days regardless of the residency of the owners or stockholders of the purchasing entity.

For more information, visit www.myflorida.com/dor. ☎



Trucks

any motor vehicle with a net vehicle weight of 5,000 pounds or less and which is designed or used principally for the carriage of goods and includes a motor vehicle to which has been added a cabinet box, a platform, a rack, or other equipment for the purpose of carrying goods other than the personal effects of the passengers. This definition is used to describe pickup trucks. Pickup trucks should be titled using AU as the Vehicle type, PK as the body type and the Reg Use should be PK. These will be class code 31. There is no legislative definition for Sports Utility Vehicles. Administratively, sport utility vehicles are identified by the enclosed cargo space. Examples: Blazers, Broncos, Suburbans, Cherokees, etc. Sports Utility Vehicles will be titled using AU as the Vehicle type, UT as the Body type and the Reg Use of PR or HF according to whether the vehicle is leased or not.

If in doubt, please feel free to contact one of our dealer section supervisors. ☎

Tax Collector Announces Expanded Driver License Services

Cherice Bravieri

Diane Nelson is proud to announce that the Tax Collector's office has acquired the Driver License facility located at McMullen Booth and Enterprise Roads in Clearwater. Also, she recently implemented limited Driver License transactions at our South County and Gulf to Bay offices. Services available at these two locations are:

- ☎ Out of State, Standard or Commercial (except hazardous material) licenses
- ☎ Learner's License with DELAP Waivers
- ☎ Florida Renewals
- ☎ Replacement or Duplicate Licenses
- ☎ D-6 Clearances

(There is an additional \$5.25 convenience fee)

We are very excited to report for the month of January 2003 we processed 12,077 transactions between all locations. ☎

New Specialty Plate On Sale!

Laurel Swim

The latest in a series of new plates, Protect Florida Whales is now available in our offices. Designed by world-renowned marine wildlife artist Wyland, the plate is intended to help support research, rehabilitation, and education programs for these important marine mammals.

The proceeds from the additional \$27.00 fee are administered by the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, Inc. in Fort Pierce. 🚗



Web resource for insurance codes

If you have trouble finding an insurance company code, try:

<http://www.fldfs.com/Data/CompanySearch/index.asp>.

This link takes you to the Department of Insurance (now known as the Department of Financial Services), Office of Insurance Regulation company search page. Enter the insurance company name, click on the search button, and you're good to go! 🚗

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 9	Title and Registration Training
May 26	Closed for Memorial Day



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