

Dealer Connection



Volume 3, Issue 4

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Tax Collector's Mid County Office is Moving!

Tax Collector Diane Nelson is pleased to announce she will be relocating the Mid County office in order to centralize and expand services. The office, currently at 8040 Bryan Dairy Road, will be moving to a new facility at 13025 Starkey Road, just south of the Ulmerton/Starkey intersection.

Phase one of the move is scheduled for mid-spring. On opening day, the new facility will handle tax collection, motor vehicle and vessel transactions, hunting and fishing licenses, and dealer processing. The Tax Collector's training department will also relocate to the Mid County Service Center in order to centralize training opportunities for both employees and dealers.

Phase two, slated for late summer, will involve transferring the McMullen Booth Driver License office to the Mid County Service Center.

"We will finally be able to provide driver license and motor vehicle services at one location for the residents in the middle of the county," Mrs. Nelson said. "It just makes good sense to consolidate various governmental services under one roof."

Check out the "What's New" section at TaxCollect.com for continuous updates on our progress. ☺



Tax Collector Offers New Options for Title Processing

Laurel Swim

Pinellas Tax Collector Diane Nelson has partnered with the Hillsborough County Tax Collector and Dealer Tag Agency,



Inc., a Tampa company that provides title services to many Hillsborough dealers.

The Tax Collector was initially approached by dealers with dealerships on both sides of the bay who were interested in Dealer Tag Agency's courier service and 24-hour turnaround. "I am always open to new ideas as part of our continuing effort to assist the dealer community," Mrs. Nelson commented.

As a pilot, the Tax Collector signed an agreement allowing select dealers with multiple franchises to

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Newest Specialty Tags are Available for Sale

Cherice Bravieri

As we all know, several new specialty license plates were authorized during the 2003 legislative session. Here are the latest, available at all Pinellas County Tax Collector Offices:



Police Benevolent Association (Support Law Enforcement). Funds are distributed to the Florida Police Benevolent Association. \$22.00 plus plate fee

<http://www.flpba.org>



The Stop Heart Disease license plate is intended to help benefit the Florida Heart Research Foundation, where funds will be used for research, education and prevention. \$27.00 plus plate fee

www.heartplate.org



The Challenger/Columbia plate is a redesign of the Challenger plate, and honors the crew of the Columbia as well as the Challenger. Funds are deposited into the Astronauts Memorial Foundation, Inc. and distributed to the Technological Research and Development Authority for funding space research grants. \$27.00 plus plate fee

<http://www.fas.org/spp/51L.html>

The following military service related plate is also available at all tag offices:



The U.S. Paratrooper license plate is intended to help benefit the State Homes for Veteran's Trust Fund. Each application must be accompanied by proof that the applicant has been decorated as a parachutist or has completed the U.S. Army Jump School. \$22.00 plus plate fee

<http://www.floridavets.org>

Change in Policy Regarding Demonstration Tags

Laurel Swim

The DMV Bureau of Field Operations recently changed its position on dealers issuing demonstration tags as a courtesy to those customers who choose to sell their old vehicle outright, rather than trading it in. According to Clyde Schmitz of the Region VI Office, Regional Administrator Gary Konopka stated "a person could theoretically go from dealer to dealer getting temp tags," without any kind of tracking mechanism. By going to a tag office, temporary tags are tracked on the DMV system, thereby hampering any potential abuse. ☹

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process their title applications through Dealer Tag Agency. Completed work is then taken to the Hillsborough Tax Collector's Office for examination and mailing to DMV in Tallahassee, and all title and registration service fees are forwarded to Pinellas County.

Additional dealers may be added to the agreement upon request by the dealer. For information, call Priscilla VanNostran, Director of Customer and Staff Services, at 727.453.3247. ☹

Collecting Sales Tax on Non-Resident Purchases

Laurel Swim

We have fielded some questions lately regarding the collection of sales tax when a vehicle is purchased by a non-resident. According to 12A-1.007, F.A.C.:

The sale in this state by a motor vehicle dealer of a new or used motor vehicle to a resident of another state of the United States is taxable in an amount equal to the sales tax which would be imposed on such sale in the purchaser's state of residence. However, such tax shall not exceed the tax that would otherwise be imposed by Chapter 212, F.S.

At the time of the sale, the purchaser shall execute a notarized statement of his or her intent to license the vehicle in his or her state of residence within 10 days from the date of purchase and:

1. Pay Florida sales tax to the dealer making the sale in an amount equivalent to the sales tax in the purchaser's state of residence;
2. Furnish the dealer making the sale with a signed copy of the notarized statement which the dealer shall retain in his records; and
3. Submit the notarized statement to the appropriate sales tax collection agency in his state of residence.

Form DR-123, *Affidavit for Partial Exemption of Motor Vehicle Sold for Licensing in Another State*, is available both on line and at your local Department of Revenue Service Center. A listing of motor vehicles sales tax rates by state may be obtained locally and on line, as well.

On a related note, the U.S. Department of State, Office of Foreign Missions (OFM) advises that tax exempt sales or leases of motor vehicles to foreign diplomats and consular employees may not be documented by presentation of the tax exemption card issued by the U.S. Department of State. Dealers are now required to contact the Miami Regional Office of the OFM for verification of the tax-exempt status. The OFM will provide a letter to the selling dealer or lessor stating whether the purchaser is eligible for exemption from any tax. The only legal means of obtaining a diplomatic tax exemption is through the issuance of this letter by the OFM.

Dealers must maintain a copy of the letter, along with

copies of valid Department of State photo identification, in order to properly document the transaction.

Any questions regarding this change in policy should be directed to the OFM Miami Regional Office at:

Office of Foreign Missions
 Diplomatic Tax Program
 95 Merrick Way, Suite 505
 Coral Gables, FL 33134
 305.442.4943

For other sales tax information, visit www.myflorida.com/dor or contact your local DOR Service Center, at 727.538.7400. 📞

Some reminders from our dealer supervisors

- ❖ If the tag you are transferring is up for renewal, indicate whether or not to extend the registration when you enter the plate number in section 2 on form 82040.
- ❖ Don't forget to enter the description of the trade-in or disposed-of vehicle in section 11 on form 82040.
- ❖ Vehicles previously registered in Canada (or any other foreign country) must have the VIN verification performed by the Bureau of Field Operations. You can contact the Bureau at 813.740.4288 for appointments.

We appreciate your continued cooperation. 📞

| 2 MOTOR VEHICLE, MOBILE HOME OR VESSEL DESCRIPTION | | | | |
|---|---|---|---------------|--|
| Vehicle/Vessel Identification Number | Make/Manufacturer | Year | Body | |
| Previous State of Issue | License Plate or Vessel Registration Number | Weight | Length FL in. | BHP/CC GV |
| Tag # Transfer/Update | | | | |
| TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> Open Motorboat <input type="checkbox"/> Houseboat <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Watercraft <input type="checkbox"/> Cabin Motorboat <input type="checkbox"/> Pontoon <input type="checkbox"/> Canoe <input type="checkbox"/> Auxiliary Sailboat <input type="checkbox"/> Airboat <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Inflatable <input type="checkbox"/> Sailboat Specify _____ | | HULL MATERIAL <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum <input type="checkbox"/> Fiberglass <input type="checkbox"/> Steel <input type="checkbox"/> Wood/Fiberglass <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Specify _____ | | PROPULSION <input type="checkbox"/> Outboard <input type="checkbox"/> Sail <input type="checkbox"/> Inboard <input type="checkbox"/> Air Propeller <input type="checkbox"/> Inboard/Outboard <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Specify _____ |
| USE OF VESSEL <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational (Pleasure) <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Blue Crab <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Stone Crab <input type="checkbox"/> Dealer/Manuf. <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Fish <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Live Bait <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Shrimp Recip. <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt <input type="checkbox"/> Hire (Livery) <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Mackerel <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Shrimp Non-Recip. <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Sponge <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Oyster <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Spiny Lobster <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Charter <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Other | | | | |
| Previously Federally Documented Vessel. Attach Copy of: <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard Release From Documentation Form; or <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Canceled Documentation Papers | | | | State of |

| 11 NON-USE AND OTHER CERTIFICATIONS | |
|---|--|
| IF CHECKED, THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATIONS ARE MADE BY THE APPLICANT: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I CERTIFY THAT THE CERTIFICATE OF TITLE IS LOST OR DESTROYED. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | THE VEHICLE IDENTIFIED WILL NOT BE OPERATED ON THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS OF THIS STATE. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | THE VESSEL IDENTIFIED WILL NOT BE OPERATED ON THE WATERS OF THIS STATE. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | OTHER: (EXPLAIN) <u>Disposal Affidavit Here</u> |

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CORRECTION

The April, 2004 Auto Dealer Class has been rescheduled from April 14 to April 21, 2004.

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| | |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| March 10 | Mobile Home Dealer Class |
| April 7 | Vessel Dealer Class |
| April 21 | Auto Dealer Class |
| April 30 | Independent dealer plates expire |
| May 31 | Closed for Memorial Day |

TagTalkSM Update.

**** ATTENTION ALL DEALERS
CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN
TAG/TALKSM ****

Sherlyn Winthrop

In order to remain in compliance with the Driver Privacy Protection Act, the Tax Collector's office is in the process of updating our TagTalkSM records. In the near future you will be receiving an update letter. It is mandatory that you respond to this letter for your account to remain active.

As always, you must notify the Tax Collector's office within three (3) working days of the termination of any authorized users. Failure to comply with this provision will result in the termination of the Agreement and the deactivation of all passwords. Any questions regarding TagTalkSM should be directed to 727.562.3271, Extension 1 or 2. ☎



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