

New Legislation

Laurel Whitney

The Florida Legislature recently passed legislation affecting most DMV fees. We do not have all the details as of this writing, but expect to see the following changes:

Base title fees will all increase under 319.32, F.S. Original titles increase from \$24 to \$70 except for titles for for-hire vehicles, which will increase from \$3 to \$49. Duplicate title fees also go up from \$24 to \$70.

Under 319.23 (6), F.S., the title late penalty increases from \$10 to \$20.

319.32 (1), F.S., will include a \$2.50 service fee for shipping and handling for each paper title mailed by DMV.

The fast title fee as described in 319.323, F.S., goes up from \$7 to \$10.

The \$4 Non-Game Wildlife Trust Fund fee charged on out of state titles increases to \$10 under 319.32, F.S.

Registration taxes listed in 320.08, F.S., will all increase

as well. Some examples are listed below.

MOTORCYCLES - from \$10 to \$13.50

AUTOMOBILES FOR PRIVATE USE

Less than 2,500 lbs. – from \$14 to \$19.50

2,500 lbs. or more, but less than 3,500 – from \$22.50 to \$30.50

3,500 lbs. or more – from \$32.50 to \$44

TRUCKS

Less than 2,000 lbs - from \$14.50 to \$19.50

2,000 lbs. or more, but not more than 3,000 lbs. – from \$22.50 to \$30.50

More than 3,000 lbs. but not more than 5,000 lbs. - from \$32.50 to \$44

HEAVY TRUCKS

Gross vehicle weight (GVW) of 5,001 lbs. or more, but less than 6,000 pounds – from \$45 to \$60.75

GVW of 6,000 lbs. or more, but less 8,000 lbs. – from \$65 to \$87.75

GVW of 72,000 pounds or more – from \$979 to \$1322

MOTOR VEHICLES FOR HIRE

Under nine passengers – from \$12.50 to \$17, plus

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Committed to citizen-centered government





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\$1.50 per 100 lbs., up from \$1 per 100 lbs.

PRIVATE USE TRAILERS

500 pounds or less – from \$5 to \$6.75

Over 500 pounds – from \$2.50 to \$3.50 plus \$1 per 100 lbs., up from 75¢ per 100 lbs.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

Travel trailer or fifth-wheel trailer – from \$20 to \$27

Camping trailer – from \$10 to \$13.50

Motor home 4,500 lbs. or more – from \$35 to \$47.50

DEALER AND MANUFACTURER LICENSE PLATES

– from \$12.50 to \$17

TRANSPORTERS – from \$75 to \$101.25

There's more. These numbers represent the base tax on a registration; however, there are other fees added to the cost of a registration and some of those are increasing as well.

320.04(1)(a) and 320.0607(3), F.S., provide for a \$2.50 service fee on registrations; it will increase to \$5.00.

320.06 (1)(b), F.S., will change the forced replacement period for license plates from 6 years to 10 and increase the new tag fee from \$12 to \$28.

The initial registration fee provided for in 320.072, F.S., will increase from \$100 to \$225.

The \$5 surcharge listed in 320.0801, F.S., on each commercial motor vehicle having a gross vehicle weight of 10,000 pounds or more increases to \$10.

The Transportation Trust Fund fee listed in 320.0804, F.S., increases from \$2 to \$4.

320.03 (5), F.S., provides for a 50¢ fee to support the state motor vehicle database; it will increase to \$1.25.

The Juvenile Justice Fund fee described in 320.08046, F.S., will increase from \$1 to \$5.50

Manatee specialty license plate fees increase by \$5 to \$25 and Conserve Wildlife plates increase by \$10 to \$25, as per 320.08056, F.S.

The personalized plate processing fee listed in 320.0805, F.S, goes up from \$2 to \$5, as does the processing fee on specialty license plates as defined in 320.08056, F.S.

There will be a new rebuilt fee, as well. 319.32 (1), F.S., will provide for a \$20 fee for each subsequent physical examination of a rebuilt motor vehicle. The first examination fee of a rebuilt vehicle remains the same at \$40.

The requirement that a motorcycle license plate be affixed horizontally has been deleted from 316.2085(3), F.S. This goes into effect upon becoming law.

Mini trucks will now be defined in 320.02, F.S., and must be registered and titled. "Mini truck" means any four-wheeled, reduced-dimension truck that does not have a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration truck classification, with a top speed of 55 miles per hour, and which is equipped with headlamps, stop lamps, turn signal lamps, tail lamps, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, windshields, and seat belts. Per 316.2122, F.S., they can be operated on the same roadways and in the same manner as low speed vehicles.

Under 320.0609(2)(c), F.S., independent dealers are required to issue temporary license plates for all vehicle sales. Specifically, if a retail sale by a licensed independent motor vehicle dealer results in the transfer of a registration, a temporary tag shall be issued and displayed during the time that the application for transfer of such registration license plate is being processed. This change shall not apply to independent dealers that are owned by principals that also hold a franchise motor vehicle dealer license in this state. Further, under 320.0609 (8)(a), F.S. when the owner of a vehicle transfers a registration to a replacement or substitute vehicle acquired from a motor vehicle dealer, the dealer shall "provide to the department, via an electronic system, information regarding the transfer." This provision takes effect October 1, 2009.

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320.1316, F.S., was created to provide a method for lienholders to notify DMV when a vehicle is to be surrendered by the owner. Upon receipt of the "notice to surrender a vehicle or vessel that has been disposed of, concealed, removed, or destroyed by the lienee, the department shall place the name of the registered owner of that vehicle on the list of those persons who may not be issued a license plate, revalidation sticker, or replacement license plate for any motor vehicle owned by the lienee at the time the notice was given by the lienor." It takes effect July 1, 2009.

320.02 (15), F.S. creates a voluntary contribution check-off for the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranch.

Language is added throughout Chapter 328 requiring all vessels that are operated, used or stored on the waters of this state to be registered and titled as appropriate.

320.13, F.S., creates unique plates for vehicle importers and distributors.

And finally . . .

The legislature approved a new specialty license plate to fund service programs for autism and related disabilities.

These changes go into effect September 1st unless otherwise indicated. Because they will affect all of the fees you're currently charging your customers, we will forward you all updates we receive from DMV so you can be prepared. ☺



2-Year Mobile Home Registration Suggestion

Christine Long

When mobile home dealers are requesting a 2-year renewal, some of them are placing post it notes, some prefill the check for the additional amount of money, and some write "2 year" in section #2 of the 82040. To make sure we don't miss your request, please enter "biennial" or "2 year" in section 2 of the 82040. This method has worked well for motor vehicles. ☺

DMV Dealer Update

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

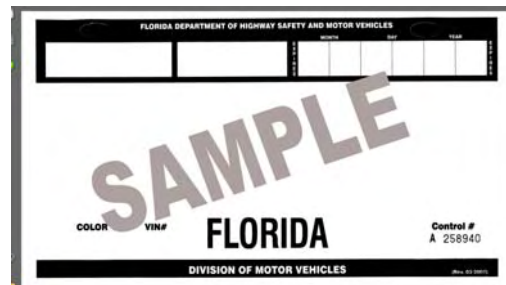
As I write this in early May of 2009, we are finishing up renewal activities for some 1800 independent, salvage, and wholesale motor vehicle dealers and vehicle auction licenses that we are responsible for and I thank the dealers involved for their cooperation. We have noted that many dealers waited until the last minute to complete the eight hours of continuing education which is required once every two years.

While reviewing the submitted dealer license renewals, we also noted many dealers had undergone corporate officer changes and failed to notify us. Any time a dealer, who is incorporated, makes a change to its corporation via www.sunbiz.org, that change must also be communicated to the Region HQs. The dealer accomplishes this by submitting a modification application to their assigned Compliance Officer.

We are still receiving reports that a few of our dealers have been issuing traditional pre-printed temporary tags and not reporting the issuance to DMV HQs through their ETR vendor. The only time a dealer can issue a traditional pre-printed temporary tag is when there is a system failure and all such issuances must be reported within one business day to DMV HQs through the dealer's ETR vendor. As a reminder, all temporary tags must be displayed in the rear license plate bracket of the vehicle – they can no longer be put in the back window.

We know there are several 2009 Legislature actions pending that may have an impact on us and our dealers. However, none have been signed into law yet as I write this. Once they are, we will endeavor to make you aware of their final version and any necessary implementation guidance.

Our phone and fax number changed a few months ago. Our office phone is now 813-612-7110 and our fax is 813-612-7111. ☺

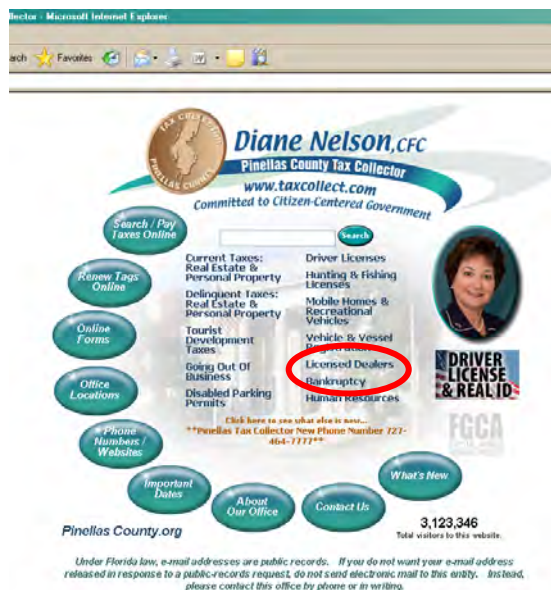


Surveys Go Hi-Tech

As you know, the Tax Collector's Office has started sending surveys to the dealer community in an effort to improve our service to you.

To make the process easier, we have posted the dealer survey on our website, www.taxcollect.com. Once on our home page, click on *Licensed Dealers* and then click on *Dealer Survey*. To complete the survey, simply click on the buttons, fill in any comments and hit *submit* when you are finished.

We'll send a reminder to you with every edition of the *Dealer Connection*, as well as instructions on how to complete the survey. Your feedback is invaluable to us as we prioritize our objectives and plan for the future. Thank you for participating. 🚗



Requesting All e-Mail Addresses

Laurel Whitney

If you have received any updated DMV forms lately, you may have noticed spaces for the owner's and co-owner's e-mail addresses. DMV hopes to use e-mail to:

- contact the owner about title application issues/problems
- provide electronic notification for renewal notices and other information
- reduce postage
- reduce paper usage

The Department plans to add e-mail addresses to renewal data files. This will allow tax collectors to send an e-mail instead of mailing a hard copy to any customer whose record includes an e-mail address for notification purposes. It will also reduce turnaround time when contacting customers.

Please help us and DMV by asking your customers for their e-mail addresses when you prepare their paperwork.

Note: E-mail addresses that are part of the motor vehicle record are covered under the Driver Privacy Protection Act (DPPA). Under the DPPA and Florida Statute 119.0712(2), addresses are exempt as personal information that could identify the individual.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

June 9	Motor Vehicle Dealer Forms Seminar
June 10	Vessel Dealer Forms Seminar
June 11	Mobile Home Dealer Forms Seminar
July 3	Closed for the 4 th of July holiday
August 4	Motor Vehicle Dealer Forms Seminar
August 6	Mobile Home Dealer Forms Seminar
September 7	Closed for the Labor Day holiday
September 8	Towing & Storage Lien Seminar

