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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Driver and Vehicle Services Update

Bureau of Motor Vehicles – Research and Support Operations Section
P.O. Box 68031, Harrisburg, PA 17106-8031

This bulletin may be downloaded by visiting the Driver and Vehicle Services
website at www.dmv.state.pa.us

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SPECIAL EDITION

Expired Plate/Pink Slip

We recently learned that there is some confusion regarding vehicles being operated on a temporary registration (pink slip) if the registration plate that was transferred is expired. We have been notified by several vehicle operators that they have been cited for expired registration since their transferred registration plate was expired. However, their pink slip showed a valid transfer and the renewal fee for the registration plate was collected.

To clarify, it is legal for a vehicle to be operated on a pink slip for 90 days even if the registration plate that was transferred, is expired, provided the valid pink slip had the “transfer and renew” block checked and the registration fee was listed in Section I of Form MV-1, “Application for Certificate of Title” or Form MV-4ST, “Vehicle Sales and Use Tax Return/Application for Registration,” or if the authorized agent certified the renewal fee was collected in Section C of Form MV-120, “Temporary Cardboard Intransit Registration Plate Card or Temporary Registration Transfer Card.” Although PennDOT records may not yet be updated, once the customer pays the registration fee to the agent, the registration plate is considered renewed. The pink slip becomes evidence of the renewal of registration. Therefore, it is legal for a vehicle to be operated on a pink slip, if the registration plate is expired, provided the registration renewal fee was listed on the pink slip and the pink slip is still valid (within 90 days of the transfer). Once the application is processed, PennDOT will issue the customer a registration card and sticker for the new vehicle.