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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.pa.gov

Tom Wolf, Governor

Leslie S. Richards, Secretary

BULLETIN NO. 18-01

January 2018

SPECIAL EDITION

Registration Plate Reissuance

Nearly 20 years ago, PennDOT undertook a massive effort to replace all of the yellow and blue background registration plates. The reissuance of the plates started Pennsylvania down the road of bringing consistency to our plates, transitioning the commonwealth to the “family of plates” design concept. PennDOT’s replacement of registration plates is ongoing under its safety inspection program. While we will continue to maintain this reissuance approach, many of those originally reissued plates are showing their age and need to be systematically replaced. The original reissuance was a high cost central reissuance project involving our mail processes. As the department’s business model has evolved, we have developed a more tailored, low cost, reissuance approach that can be continuously and routinely deployed.

PennDOT is beginning a new registration plate reissuance for older Pennsylvania registration plates that may be weathered, damaged, or unreadable. Section 1331 of Title 75, the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, provides for the reissuance of current registration plates previously issued under Section 1331.

There are registration plates currently in circulation that date as far back as 1999. Among them are standard issue passenger plates that start with the tag configuration ‘D’, ‘E’, ‘F’ and truck plates that start with ‘Y’.

This reissuance will utilize PennDOT staff and the existing network of agents and dealers that participate in the Online Registration and Online Messenger Programs and will replace the plates when a customer transfers a ‘D’, ‘E’, ‘F’ or ‘Y’ configured registration plate.

For this general reissuance beginning January 21, 2018, under Vehicle Code Section 1934, no fee shall be charged for any registration plate issued as a result of the department’s order of a general reissuance of registration plates provided the registration plate is issued at the time designated by the department. All other fees must be paid (transfer fee, registration fee, titling fee, etc.). Agents are not required to return the old registration plates to PennDOT. The online dealer/agent may not charge the plate issuance fee under Vehicle Code Section 1928 for a general reissuance. The Department will provide a weekly credit for Online Registration Program Participants for the cost of replaced registration plates processed in the previous week. Agents should keep track of the plates they replace for this general reissuance to ensure they are receiving the appropriate credit to their account and must allow two weeks from the date of processing the replacement registration plate to receive their credit. Please note that not all plates are issued and processed in the same week. This credit can be applied to future temporary tag requests. If there is a discrepancy between the credit you feel you are owed and the credit that was applied to your account, please contact us at RA-PDAgentCredits@PA.gov.

To facilitate this ‘D’, ‘E’, ‘F’ and ‘Y’ registration plate replacement initiative, changes will be made to PennDOT’s system, as well as ancillary vehicle registration systems such as Integrator software, eGov and CMV (Apportioned & Fleet registrations). The system changes are designed to prevent the transfer of these plates.

For agents in the Online Messenger Program, system changes will be implemented on January 21, 2018 to identify all issued ‘D’, ‘E’, ‘F’ and ‘Y’ tag configurations and will place an ‘R’ in the “tag color code” field on the record. When processing a registration transfer using MV-40 transfer registration transaction, the record will be flagged and require the registration to be transferred with a new plate issued using code “2” in the “tnfr cd” field

and using code “G” in the tag reissue field to indicate the registration plate is being issued as a result of a “general reissuance.” The processor will be unable to continue the transfer transaction without using the transfer/reissue code “2” and the reissue reason code of “G.” The color code field will be automatically changed from “R” to “N” to reflect the newly issued registration plate type. Additional training with screen shots are forthcoming.

For agents in the Online Registration Program, your integrator will implement similar system changes to ensure these series of plate configurations cannot be transferred. The system changes are planned to stop the transfer of a “D”, “E”, “F”, and “Y” tag configurations as well as ensure the proper codes are entered to prevent incorrect charges to the customer and proper credit is entered into your .Centric accounts.

**AGENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ENSURE ALL OF THEIR EMPLOYEES RECEIVE PENNDOT’S
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