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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# Driver and Vehicle Services Update

Bureau of Motor Vehicles – Research and Support Operations Section  
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This bulletin may be downloaded by visiting the Driver and Vehicle Services website at [www.dmv.pa.gov](http://www.dmv.pa.gov).

**Josh Shapiro, Governor**

**Mike Carroll, Secretary**

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## SPECIAL EDITION

### Short Vehicle Identification Numbers (VINs)

It has come to PennDOT's attention that there are registration plates being issued to some vehicles that do not conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS). Often, these vehicles are accompanied with the proper import documentation but are not regarded in Pennsylvania as on-road vehicles and cannot be titled to operate on Pennsylvania roadways. These vehicles may also come from other jurisdictions on valid titles but are still regarded as non-compliant vehicles in Pennsylvania.

Previously, we have indicated to agents that all paperwork for vehicles that have short Vehicle Identification Numbers (a VIN with less than 17-digits) will need to be submitted to PennDOT for review. This process has not changed and should still be followed. This excludes trailers, special mobile equipment (SME), recreational vehicles, specially constructed vehicles, mobile/manufactured homes and Pennsylvania issued VIN plates regardless of model year.

Additionally, if agents have a customer who is attempting to title and register a vehicle of this type, they should be indicating on the MV-1 that the plate will be issued by the department. Agents should not issue a plate to the customer at that time. Any application for Pennsylvania Certificate of Title received by the Department for these vehicles will be forwarded to the appropriate department to be reviewed. The determination will be made whether or not registration can be issued to the vehicle.

When an employee comes across a vehicle with a "G" stop, the work MUST be forwarded to PennDOT for processing.

**AGENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ENSURE ALL OF THEIR EMPLOYEES RECEIVE PENNDOT'S DRIVER AND VEHICLE SERVICES UPDATE BULLETINS**