



October 20-23, 2022 | Westin Boston Seaport District

10/22/2022

RMV and What's New!

8:45AM - 9:45 AM

Kathy Cormier

CEUs: 1

Massachusetts Association
of Insurance Agents



RMV and What's New

Beware of Text Phishing Scams

The RMV issued a reminder on social media regarding text phishing scams and wanted customers to remember these few things if they were to ever encounter one.

The RMV does not send unsolicited requests for personal and/or contact information to customers by text. Any communication by text from the RMV would be as a result of customer-initiated request or transaction. Please do not click on any suspicious links or give out personal information.

The RMV is cautioning customers to be aware of a text phishing scam that has been reported here in the Commonwealth and in other states. The scam reportedly involves customers receiving text messages, claiming to be from the "DMV," that direct them to click on a provided link to update their personal identifying contact information. Customers can identify this type of text as a phishing scam because it includes "DMV" and in Massachusetts "DMV" is not the name of the Registry of Motor Vehicles; in Massachusetts, the name of the Registry is abbreviated as "RMV." Any text using the phrase "Department of Motor Vehicles" or "DMV" should be deleted.

Acceptance of Scanned or Faxed Copies of the RTAs

In March 2020, the RMV temporarily amended the proof of insurance policy with the understanding that insurance companies and agents may select to work remotely, or stop in-person visits to their offices. This policy change has been extended indefinitely.

1. For insurance companies and agent that currently use a rubber insurance stamp, the RMV will accept a scanned or faxed copy of the Registration and Title Application (RTA) or RMV-2 form. The copy must be legible and the form filled out properly in order to be accepted. The acceptance of a scanned or faxed copy of these forms is the only change to the former policy.
2. For both Electronic Vehicle Registration (EVR) program and non-EVR program dealer sales, a new RTA form may need to be completed by the insurance company or agency if they lack the ability to physically receive a fax or stamp the RTA. In this case, both the dealer completed and insurance completed RTA forms will need to be submitted as part of the transaction.
 - If two forms are submitted, both must be completed; however, one form may have the customer signature and one form may have the insurance stamp. Both forms together are considered a complete form. One or both may be faxed or scanned versions.
 - If one form is submitted, all the components must be on one form (completed application, customer signature, and insurance stamp) but it may be a faxed or scanned version.

Changes of Utility Truck Body Style Code

Effective September 15th., the ATLAS body style code of Utility Truck was changed to SUV (sport utility vehicle). This is because most vehicles given this code are more accurately described as SUV's.

Vehicles that previously would have been given the body style code of Utility Truck, but are NOT SUVs, will now be given a new more correct and generic code of Utility.

Examples:

The body style SUVs used for a sport utility vehicle

Sport Utility
Vehicle



The Body style Utility is used for utility truck.

Utility Truck



Vehicle Inspection Changes

Two vehicle inspection changes will take effect over the next couple of months. Starting October 1, vehicle owners will no longer receive a printed inspection report when a vehicle passes inspection. Starting November 1, vehicles passing inspection will get a new sticker with the month the last sticker expired (unless the sticker expired the previous year), regardless of the month the inspection is conducted.

No More Printed Passing Inspection Reports

Effective October 1, 2022, to reduce paper waste, vehicle owners will no longer receive a printed inspection report when a vehicle passes inspection. Instead, owners can easily access and print a report by going online to Mass Vehicle Check or by using a cell phone and scanning the QR code on the poster displayed at the inspection site.

If a vehicle fails the inspection, the owner will be provided with a printed vehicle inspection report by the inspection station.

Sticker Expiration Dates

Effective November 1, 2022, motor vehicles passing an inspection will get a new sticker with the month the last sticker expired. If the last sticker expired in a previous month, the new sticker will have that same previous month.

If the last sticker expired the previous year, the vehicle will get a January sticker of the current year the vehicle is being inspected, no matter the month the vehicle is inspected.

This change does not impact the requirements for newly purchased vehicles. All newly purchased vehicles must be inspected within seven days of the vehicle registration date and will receive a sticker of the month in which it was inspected and is valid for one year.

There is no change for owners who get their vehicles inspected on time or before the due date. Owners will continue to receive the sticker with the month in which the vehicle was inspected.

Vehicle Inspection Changes

Examples:

Below are all examples for a vehicle with a current inspection sticker that expires November 2022.

- If the vehicle passes an inspection in October 2022 (one month early), it will receive a sticker with an expiration of October 2023.
- If the vehicle passes an inspection in November 2022 (on time), it will receive a sticker with an expiration of November 2023
- If the vehicle passes an inspection in December 2022 (one month late), it will receive a sticker with an expiration of November 2023.
- If the vehicle passes an inspection in January 2023 (the next year), it will receive a sticker with an expiration of January 2024.
- If the vehicle passes an inspection any month from February-December 2023 (the next year), it will receive a sticker with an expiration of January 2024.

September 14, 2022

Special Salvage Inspection Requirement

The RMV has determined that a number of vehicles were issued a Certificate of Title that should have contained a "Salvage" band and the vehicle should have undergone a Salvage Inspection prior to being registered. Beginning April 22, 2022, these vehicles had a Special Salvage Inspection Requirement added to their ATLAS records.

These vehicles require a Special Salvage Inspection prior to title issuance, registration, or transfer. Customers must call 617-284-6851, 9am to 5pm Monday - Friday, for Priority Scheduling of Salvage Inspection.

Only customers with this special salvage inspection requirement displayed on the record will be able to schedule a salvage inspection using this dedicated phone line.

Additionally, vehicles with this salvage inspection requirement cannot be scheduled for a salvage inspection outside of this special process and cannot be added to other salvage inspection schedules.

A letter has been sent to all affected customers to inform them of this requirement.

04/22

Revised Road Test Application and Information Sheet

Beginning Monday, May 2nd., all applicant for a Class D Road Test will need to bring their own vehicle that meets the RMV's requirements.

As a reminder, the use of face coverings is strongly encouraged, but not required, for all vehicle occupants during the road test.

The [Class D or M Road Test Application](#) (RDT103) and the [Class D and M Road Test Information Sheet](#) (RDT-101) have both been revised. The revised versions have a date of "0522" in the bottom right corner and will soon be available online.

Changes to the Road Test Application

Alterations have been made to the sponsor and grading sections.

- Sponsors must now print their names and identify if they are a licensed driving instructor.
- Examiners now have a section to notate added or deleted restrictions.

Changes to the Information Sheet

- Edits have been made to support the change to private cars and to assist with addressing some common problems.
- Sections F and G have been modified to advise customers of specific scenarios that will prevent their test from moving forward

Certificates of Title with Stickers or Labels

Dealerships, auction houses, leasing companies, and fleets often affix inventory barcode labels and stickers to Certificates of Title to assist with managing their title processing. This can lead to processing and branding errors if these labels and stickers cover important information on the title.

In order for the RMV or authorized business partners to accept a title for processing a transaction, any labels or stickers must be affixed along the edge of the title and must not cover or cancel any information in the body of the title. Any titles with information covered by labels or stickers cannot be accepted, must be returned to the customer, and the transaction must be cancelled.

DO NOT attempt to remove any stickers or labels affixed to a title. If a customer attempts to remove a sticker or label and it alters the fidelity of the title, it cannot be accepted.

The RMV has sole discretion on whether or not a sticker or label is appropriately affixed to a title or if its removal has in any way affected the fidelity of a title.

Sample Title with Label/Sticker in Appropriate Location

101284						CERTIFICATE OF TITLE					
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT						45390962 16 TOYT RAV4 XLE BLACK PH: 350 - PR: 350					
TITLE NUMBER		VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER				05/26/2022		45390962 TTLO 438711 LMU		QR CODE	
NFRS MODEL YEAR		MAKE		MODEL NAME		BODY STYLE/TYPE		NEW/USED			
2016		TOYT		RAV4		4442		SUV		USED	
CYL. PAS. ORS		PURCHASE DATE		ODOMETER READING		PREV. TITLE NO.		PREV. TITLE STATE			
04 05 4		04/16/2019		26,801 26,801 Actual				MA			
MAILING ADDRESS ONLY:						TITLE TYPE AND BRANDS					
COPART 49 RUSSELL RD EAST GRANBY CT 06026-9765						TITLE TYPE BRAND BRAND BRAND BRAND					
OWNER(S) NAME AND ADDRESS:						TITLE MESSAGE(S):					
[REDACTED]						[REDACTED]					
FIRST LIENHOLDER:						SECOND LIENHOLDER:					
RELEASE OF FIRST LIEN:						RELEASE OF SECOND LIEN:					
THE FIRST LIENHOLDER'S INTEREST IN THE VEHICLE DESCRIBED IN THIS CERTIFICATE IS HEREBY RELEASED.						THE SECOND LIENHOLDER'S INTEREST IN THE VEHICLE DESCRIBED IN THIS CERTIFICATE IS HEREBY RELEASED.					
NAME:						NAME:					
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:						AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:					
X						X					
DATE RELEASED:						DATE RELEASED:					
THE REGISTRAR OF MOTOR VEHICLES HEREBY CERTIFIES THAT AN APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE FOR THE MOTOR VEHICLE DESCRIBED HEREIN HAS BEEN DULY FILED, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAWS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. BASED ON THE STATEMENTS OF THE APPLICANT AND THE RECORDS ON FILE WITH THIS AGENCY, THE APPLICANT NAMED IS THE OWNER OF SAID VEHICLE.						THE REGISTRAR OF MOTOR VEHICLES FURTHER CERTIFIES THAT THE VEHICLE IS SUBJECT TO ANY SECURITY INTERESTS SHOWN HEREIN.					
						Colleen Ogilvie					
						Colleen Ogilvie Registrar					
						CONTROL NO. H 4452522 NOT THE TITLE NUMBER					
ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS TITLE. KEEP IN SAFE PLACE											
REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES											

Sample Title with Non-Compliant Label/Sticker Placement

STATE OF CALIFORNIA									
AUTOMOBILE					VEHICLE HISTORY				
VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION									
YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	VIN	PLATE/NUMBER					
2015	BMW								
EXPIRATION DATE									
10/18/2019									
SALE PRICE									
\$22									
EQUIPMENT/TEST NUMBER									
AE 4969364									
CONTACT DATE									
05/21/2019									
CHECKED BY									
MI									
REGISTRATION FEE									
STATE FARM MUTUAL									
AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE									
COMPANY									
11535 DOUGLAS RD									
RANCHO CORDOVA CA 95742									
STOCK NUMBER									
25316398									
25385932									
North Hollywood									
The vehicle dealer must provide a valid VIN inspection certification of compliance (emog) may be required.									
To transfer ownership of this vehicle the seller and buyer must complete the reassignment on the back of this certificate.									
CVC 11515 requires the seller and any subsequent sellers that transfer property and purchase at been declared									
SEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA									
<IAAI SLD 143303468 SALED0CJ>									
Stock #: 000-25385932 43834383 Sale Document (Front)									
<IAAI SLD 138990461 SALED0CI>									
Stock #: 000-25385932 43834383 Sale Document (Back)									
000098									
534782									
RECEIVED (REV. 1/10)									

KEEP IN A SAFE PLACE - VOID IF ALTERED

ID Requirements for Duplicate Titles

For security and legal purposes, the RMV must follow identification requirements for all paper applications for duplicate certificates of title.

- All applicants: Any customer applying for a duplicate title must provide a photocopy of the license/ID of each individual owner (whether the applicant is the owner or somebody else) IF they are requesting the duplicate title be mailed to any address other than the address of the lienholder or owner on record. If there are multiple owners on file, the applicant must present a photocopy of the license/ID for each owner.
- Non-owner applicants: If the applicant listed on and signing the application is anyone other than the owner(s) and requesting that the duplicate title be mailed to any address other than the address of the lienholder or owner on record, the application must present a Power of Attorney (POA) signed by the owner(s), in addition to the photocopy of the license/ID of the owner(s). If there are multiple owners on file, the application must present a POA (if not the owner) and a photocopy for the license/ID for each owner.
- Owner-applicants with co-owners: If there are multiple owners, and owner-applicant must provide a POA signed by each additional owner who has not signed the application, in addition to the photocopy of the license/ID of each individual owner named on the title, in order for the duplicate title to be mailed to any address other than the address of the lienholder or owner on record.
- Business owners: The same requirements apply to business owners as to individual owners. A photocopy of the license/ID of the representative(s) of the business signing the application is required in order for the duplicate title to be mailed to any address other than the address of the lienholder or owner on record.
- Surviving spouses: A photocopy of the license/ID of the surviving spouse is required in order for the duplicate title to be mailed to any address other than the address of the lienholder or owner on record.
- Personal representatives of a deceased person: A photocopy of the license/ID of the personal representative is required in order for the duplicate title to be mailed to any address other than the address of the lienholder or owner on record.

ID Requirements for Duplicate Titles continued

NOTES:

- The photocopy of the license/ID does NOT need to be in color, but it must be of an ACTIVE license/ID.
- This policy only applies to paper applications. It does not apply to applications through the Online Service Center.
- If the customer requests a duplicate title be mailed to the owner/lienholder address that is listed in ATLAS, a photocopy of the license/ID and POA is NOT required.

New/Revised Applications

To accommodate this policy, a new Duplicate Title Application has been created. In addition, the form previously titled the Amend/Lienholder Maintenance/Duplicate Title Applications has been revised to remove the duplicate title option from it; it is now titled the Amend Title/Lienholder Maintenance Application.

Both of these applications are now available online. Please begin using them immediately and recycle/destroy any printed copies of the old application.

Pennsylvania Reconstructed Titles

A number of Pennsylvania Reconstructed Titles have been obtained fraudulently without having a salvage inspection completed. These vehicles require an inspection prior to registration in Massachusetts except in the following scenarios:

- Pennsylvania Reconstructed Title with an issue date prior to 01/01/2019
- Pennsylvania Reconstructed Titles presented by an individual with a valid MVU-29 (Affidavit in Support of a Claim for Exemption from Sales or Use Tax for a Motor Vehicle Purchased Outside of Massachusetts)

All other customers with Pennsylvania Reconstructed Title must follow these steps to register their vehicles in Massachusetts:

1. Apply for a Massachusetts Salvage Title. Refer customers to the [Apply for a Salvage Title Page](#) on the RMV website.
2. Pass a Massachusetts Salvage Inspection. Refer customer to the [Salvage Inspection page](#) on the RMV website.
3. Obtain a Massachusetts Reconstructed Title. Refer customers to the Apply for a [Recovered Theft or Reconstructed Title page](#) on the RMV website.

Length of Road Test Score Validity

If an applicant for a driver's license passes a road test but has not prepaid for the license, or if the license isn't issued due to other outstanding fees, obligations, or non-active license status, the applicant must obtain their license while their test results remain valid. Applicants need to pay for any tests they retake.

Class D and M Road Test

Class D and M test results will remain valid for 60 days from the date of the passed test or until the date the permit expires, whichever is later.

Any exception to this requirement must be at the discretion of the Director of the Road Test Program, Driver Licensing, or their designee.

CDL Road Test

Commercial Driver's License (CDL) test results will remain valid for 60 days from the date the applicant passed the test.

After 60 days have passed, the applicant will need to retake the skills/road test to obtain a CDL. If the applicant's Commercial Learner's Permit (CLP) is expired and ineligible for renewal, they will also need to retake the knowledge test.

Any exception to these requirements must be at the discretion of the CDL Operations Center.

Permit Language

The following is printed on permits to inform applicants of this policy:

If you have not prepaid, you have 60 calendar days from the date you pass your road test to apply for a driver's license at an RMV Service Center. If you do not, you will have to take and pass a new road test at your expense. It is unlawful for you to drive if your learner's permit expires prior to you obtaining a temporary driver's license.

Spanish Version of 7D Exam

The School Pupil Transport (7D) Exam is available in both Spanish and English through the Automated Testing Stations (ATS) in RMV Service Centers. Applicants can choose with language to take the exam in.

The 7D exam is offered at all full-service rMV Service Centers during regular business hours and an appointment is required. Applicants must present the Exam Authorization Notice that is issued to them upon application approval.

School Bus and School Pupil Plate Issuance

School bus plates and school pupil plate will only be available in the following six RMV Service Centers for initial issuance:

1. Braintree
2. Greenfield
3. Haverhill
4. Milford
5. Springfield
6. Wilmington

School bus and school pupil plates cannot be registered in other service centers and temporary plates cannot be issued.

7D½ Vehicles Cannot Be Registered with SPN Plates

7D½ vehicles are used exclusively to transport vocational school students to and from a job site. Massachusetts law (540 CMR 2.04(3)) has been changed to prohibit 7D½ vehicles from being registered with School Pupil (SPN) plates. The vehicles can be registered with a personal Passenger Plate or, in some cases, a Municipal Plate if they are currently a Government Entity in ATLAS.

We have notified all 7D½ vehicle owners and provided instructions on how to swap their plates. The swap can be done either in a B2B center through their insurance agent or by mailing their documentation to the Special Plates Department.

SPN plates are valid for two years and expire at the end of June. During their renewal, we hope to convert all 7D½ vehicles that are currently registered with SPN plates and swap them to a different plate.

Schools with 7D½ Plates

7D½ customers can be identified by their school name, which will always include either "Vocational" or "Technical" or both (such as The Greater Lowell Regional Vocation Technical High School).

There are currently 14 schools that have a total of 88 7D½ vehicles registered with SPN plates. We expect most of these renewal transactions to come into B2B centers through insurance agents.

See below for a full list of these schools with 7D½ vehicles that cannot have SPN plates issued or renewed.

What's New

School	Address	City/Town
Assabet Valley Regional Vocational Tech	215 Fitchburg St.	Marlborough
Bay Path Regional Vocational Tech High	57 Old Muggett Hill Rd.	Charlton
Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Tech	65 Pleasant St.	Upton
Blue Hills Regional Vocational Tech	800 Randolph St.	Canton
Bristol-Plymouth Regional Vocational Tech	207 Hart St.	Taunton
Cape Cod Regional Vocational Tech	351 Pleasant Lake Ave.	Harwich
Charles McCann Vocational Tech	70 Hodges Cross Rd..	North Adams
Diman Regional Vocational Tech High	251 Stonehaven Rd..	Fall River
Essex North Shore Agricultural & Tech School District	565 Maple St./ P.O. Box 346	Hawthorne
Franklin County Regional Vocational Tech	82 Industrial Blvd.	Turners Falls
Greater Fall River Regional Vocational Tech	251 Stonehaven Rd..	Fall River
Greater Lawrence Regional Vocational Tech	57 River Rd..	Andover
Greater Lowell Regional Vocational Tech	250 Pawtucket Blvd.	Tyngsborough
Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Tech	1121 Ashley Blvd.	New Bedford
Joseph P. Keefe Technical High	740 Winter St..	Framingham
Lynn Vocational Tech Institute	80 Neptune Blvd.	Lynn
Madison Park Tech Vocational High	75 Malcolm X Blvd.	Roxbury
Minuteman Regional Vocational Tech	758 Marrett Rd..	Lexington
Montachusett Regional Vocational Tech	1050 Westminster St.	Fitchburg
Nashoba Valley Regional Vocational Tech	100 Littleton Rd.	Westford
Northampton - Smith Vocational Agricultural	80 Locust St.	Northampton
Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational Tech	100 Hemlock Rd.	Wakefield
Northern Berkshire Regional Vocational Tech	70 Hodges Cross Rd.	North Adams
Old Colony Regional Vocational Tech	476 North Ave	Rochester
Pathfinder Regional Vocational Tech	240 Sykes St....	Palmer
Roger L. Putnam Vocational Tech Academy	1300 State St....	Springfield
Shawsheen Valley Regional Vocational Tech	100 Cook St....	Billerica
Smith Vocational and Agricultural High	80 Locust St.	Northampton
South Middlesex Regional Vocational Tech	750 Winter St...	Framingham
South Shore Regional Vocational Tech	476 Webster St.	Hanover
Southeastern Regional Vocational Tech	250 Foundry St....	South Eastern
Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District	57 Muggett Hill Rd.	Charlton
Tri-County Regional Vocational Tech	147 Pond St.....	Franklin
Upper Cape Cod Regional Vocational Tech	220 Sandwich Rd.	Bourne
Whittier Regional Vocational Tech	115 Amesbury Line Rd.	Haverhill
Worcester Tech High	1 Skyline Dr.	Worcester

Entry Level Driver Training Requirements

To set a new federal standard for mandatory training of entry-level drivers, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has established new minimum training standards for commercial driver's license applications under 49 CFR Part 380, Subpart E. The new training requirements are aimed at improving road safety.

The new Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) requirements apply to individuals who:

- Obtain a Commercial Learner's Permit (CLP) on or after February 7, 2022
- Upgrade from a Class B to a Class A Commercial Driver's License (CDL) on or after February 7, 2022
- Apply for a Passenger (P), School Bus (S), or Hazardous Materials (H) Endorsement for the first time on or after February 7, 2022.

The ELDT regulations are not retroactive; individuals who were issued a CLP or a P, S or H endorsement for the first time on or after February 7, 2022 are not subject to ELDT.

Verification of ELDT Completion

Beginning on February 7, 2022, the RMV is required to verify completion of ELDT for applicants that are subject to the requirement.

FMCSA has created a new Training Provider Registry (TPR) to support the new ELDT requirement. This is the site where applicants will select a registered training provider and where training providers will submit driver training data for the RMV to verify.

The link to the TPR website is <https://tpr.fmcsa.dot.gov/> . Both CLP/CDL applicants and training providers can be referred to this website for additional information. There is also an RMV ELDT page that customers can be referred to: <https://www.mass.gov/guides/entry-level-driver-training-eldt>

Note: If these links don't work, please copy and past the web address into the browser.

ELDT verification is performed prior to conducting the following tests for entry-level drivers on or after February 7, 2022:

- Skills (road) test for an initial CDL
- Skills (road) test for an upgrade to a Class A or Class B License, a Passenger (P) or School Bus (S) Endorsement, or a knowledge test for hazardous materials (H) endorsement

Issuance of Veteran and Military Plates to Lessees

Applications for Veteran and Military Plates can be accepted directly from eligible customers who lease, rather than own, a motor vehicle. Proof of the lease in the name of the applicant must be submitted. In this case, the Certificate of Registration and plates will be issued in the name of the leasing company (the lessor), but will be provided directly to the applicant (the lessee).

To retain the plate at the end of the lease, the lessee will need to provide a letter from the leasing company assigning the plates to the customer.

This has been existing RMV policy, but a stopper in ATLAS was restricting these plates to vehicle owners only and a workaround was required to get around this stopper. Effective July 20th., the stopper will be removed, allowing the proper processing of these transactions.

Note: Documents submitted as proof of lease include the following:

- A registration and Title Application (RTA) in the leasing company name with the customer listed as a lessee and the vehicle title in the leasing company name
- A lease agreement
- A purchase and sales agreement

Affected Plate

The following plates are covered by this policy:

Veteran (including branch of service and war-time decals	Distinguished Flying Cross
Bronze Star	Ex-POW
Silver Star	National Guard
Purple Heart	Disabled Veteran
Congressional Medal of Honor	Gold Star Family
Legion of Valor	Medal of Liberty
Pearl Harbor Survivor	

Pre-ordered Plates

Many customers have already pre-ordered plates. These plate have been shipped to the Special Plates Department and letter will be mailed to these customers instruction them to call Special Plates to process the plate swap.

If the customer does not need an insurance stamp, then no Registration and Title Application (RTA) is required, and the customer can either pay by credit card over the phone or an email payment link can be sent to them.

If an insurance Stamp is required, the customer will need to get an RTA completed and stamped by their insurance company and email or fax it to the Special Plates Department to process the transaction. Once the payment has been processed, the plates, along with the registration and decal, will be mailed to the customer.

Special Plates Ordered Online

You can order a special license plate for your passenger vehicle to support a cause or charitable organization you care about. There are several varieties of special plates available to support your favorite sports team, charitable organization, or environmental cause.

To order a special plate:

- Your registration must be active and in good standing
- You must be the registered owner of the vehicle
- Depending on your desired plate, you will also have to pay a fee.

If the customer does not need an insurance stamp, then no Registration and Title Application (RTA) is required, and the customer can pay by credit card in their myRMV account at the time of order and the plates will be mailed to the customer as an "Advanced Swap". The customer can then attached the plate once received and the old plate will cease on the "advanced swap date"...DO NOT cancel the old plate as that will automatically cancel the new plate.

Handout for Plates that are pre-ordered and mailed to the customer

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PLATE ORDER!

Enclosed is your new set of plates and registration.
Please read the instructions below.

DO NOT cancel your current plate.
When your new plate becomes active,
your old plate will cease automatically.

- 1** The registration effective date of your new plate is printed on the registration certificate. This is the date you can attach the new plates to your vehicle.

- 2** Attach the plate with the expiration decal on the back of your vehicle. The other plate (with no decal) must be attached to the front of the vehicle.

- 3** Once your new plates becomes active, you can destroy your old plates – do **NOT** return them to the RMV. You can cut your old plates in half, discard, or recycle them, if accepted by your local recycle center.

- 4** Your inspection sticker contains your registration number so after attaching your new plate to your vehicle, keep your old registration in your vehicle to prove inspection, if needed.

- 5** Contact your insurance company or agent and inform them of the new plate number and effective date of registration.

If you have any questions concerning your new plates, please call the RMV's Special Plates Department at (857) 368-8031.



Striped Bass Plate

The Striped Bass plate is a two-year passenger special plate. Proceeds from this plate will fund the Environmental Trust Fund, which provides grants for education and to preserve the Massachusetts environment. All pre-ordered plates have been delivered to the Special Plates Department at RMV Quincy Headquarters (see Pre-Ordered Plates section on the next page). After the pre-ordered plates have been distributed, Striped Bass plates will be centrally distributed and customers who order them in service centers will receive a temporary plate while the permanent plates are mailed to them. In addition, the Striped Bass plate is available for order on the RMV's website (Mass.Gov/RMV).



Plate Design: The Striped Bass plate feature an image of several striped bass and the words "Striped Bass Conservation" at the bottom of the plate.

Fees: The total fee for the Striped Bass plate is \$100 (\$60 registration fee plus \$40 special plate fee). The special plate fee disbursement is as follows:

- \$28.00 goes to the Environmental Trust Fund
- \$12.00 goes to MassDOT for manufacturing the plate.

Upon renewal, the full \$40 special plate fee goes to the Environmental Trust Fund.

Renewal: The plates need to be renewed every two years.

Plate Type: Striped Bass plates have the plate type "Striped Bass" in ATLAS. The use type is "personal". Examples: SC1234, SC123A, SC12AB

New Registered Nurse Plates

The Registered Nurse plate is a two-year passenger special plate. Proceeds from this plate will fund the ONL Association for Nursing Leadership, Science and Education, Inc. All pre-ordered plates have been delivered to the Special Plates Department at RMV Quincy Headquarters (see Pre-Ordered Plates section on the next page). After the pre-ordered plates have been distributed, Registered Nurse plates will be centrally distributed and customers who order them in RMV service centers will receive a temporary plate while the permanent plates are mailed to them. In addition, the Registered Nurse plate will soon be available for order on the RMV's website (Mass.Gov/RMV).



Plate Design: The Registered Nurse plate features an image of the registered nurse symbol and the words "Advancing Health" at the bottom of the plate.

Fees: The total fee for the Registered Nurse plate is \$100 (\$60 registration fee plus \$40 special plate fee). The special plate fee disbursement is as follows.

- \$28.00 goes to the ONL Association for Nursing Leadership, Science and Education, Inc.
- \$12.00 goes to MassDOT for manufacturing the plate

Upon renewal, the full \$40.00 special plate fee goes to the ONL Association for Nursing Leadership, Science and Education, Inc.

Renewal: The plates need to be renewed every two years.

Plate Type: Registered Nurse plates have the plate type "Registered Nurse" in ATLAS. The use type is "personal".

Example: RN1234, RN123A, RN12AB

Medal of Liberty Plates

Effective May 23, 2022, the Medal of Liberty Plates can be issued, without charge, to approved family members of service men and women from Massachusetts who were killed in action or died in service while in a designated combat area in the line of duty or who died as a result of wounds received in action.

Each qualifying applicant can register one private passenger motor vehicle owned and principally used by him /her.

The Medal of Liberty Plate is a two-year passenger special plate. Medal of Liberty Plates are not available for motorcycles.



Plate Design: the Medal of Liberty Plate features an image of the Medal of Liberty and the words "Medal of Liberty" at the bottom of the plate.

Renewal: The plates need to be renewed every two years.

Plate Type: Medal of Liberty Plates have the plate type "Medal of Liberty" in ATLAS. The use type is "personal". Example: ML1234; ML123A; ML12AB

Approval Process

Applicant must first be approved for the Massachusetts Medal of Liberty by the Office of the Adjutant General. Once approved for the medal, they can either apply for the plates online or by mail. All of the following documents must be submitted:

1. A completed Application for Medal of Liberty Plates.
2. A Recommendation for the Massachusetts Medal of Liberty form (TAGMA form 3367) approved by the office of the Adjutant General.
3. The service members DD-214, DD Form 1300, Deployment Orders, or NGB 22.
4. A completed Registration and Title Application (stamped by an insurance company)

Once approved for the plate, they will be mailed to the applicants and should be received within 20 days, at which point they can be attached to the vehicle.

Medal of Liberty Plates continued

Killed in Action (KIA) Decals

Applicants can request a KIA decal if the service member's DD Form 1300 indicates "Killed in Action" in category box 4C.

K.I.A. Decals must be affixed to the shaded area of the plate below the Medal of Liberty (one the left of the plate).



Application for Medal of Liberty Plates

A new application for Medal of Liberty Plates (REG129) has been created.

Total Loss Vehicles and Ceased Plates

When a vehicle is a total loss it is no longer drivable. The RMV ATLAS system will automatically mark a plate as ceased when the insurance company takes title to a total loss vehicle. This has created issues for consumers who want to transfer their registration to another vehicle and access the 7 day transfer law as well as for customers who will not be replacing their vehicle and want to cancel the registration.

The RMV is working on a fix to allow EVR dealers to process these transactions for transfer of registration, however, this has not yet ready. A customer can still transfer a registration from a vehicle that is a total loss but it must be done at an RMV Service Center until the dealer is able to process them.

For customers who want to cancel a their registration, the RMV is working on fix to allow the consumer to cancel their total loss "ceased" registration in their myRMV account, but until that fix is put into place send them to me at kcormier@massagent.com and I will get a letter for you showing the cancellation of the plate that the customer can use for excise tax purposes or to cancel the policy.

01/22

New Return Mail Letter

Registration and Title Applications (RTAs) from out-of-state dealers can be processed by mail through the Registration Department at Quincy RMV Headquarters.

All other RTAs mailed to the Registration Department from Massachusetts dealers or individual customers get returned to the customer and they need to make an appointment at a service center to process the transaction.

Effective immediately, a new Returned Mail Letter (TTLREG108) will be sent to these customers with instructions to make an appointment (see next page for sample letter). If the customer has an account, a copy of this letter will be attached to the customer's account. This will allow the RMV to record and track these returns.

07/22

Sample Returned Mail Letter



Returned Mail Letter

Date:

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Dear Customer:



Why did you receive this correspondence?

Your documentation is being returned to you because the transaction you have requested cannot be conducted by mail. This transaction can only be performed at an RMV Service Center.



What do you need to do?

Visit [Mass.Gov/RMV](https://www.mass.gov/rmv) to make an appointment to visit an RMV Service Center. In the Online Service Center, select the Make or Cancel a Reservation option and follow the online screen instructions.



Are you responsible for any fees?

You are responsible for the applicable fees at the time of the transaction.



What if you have questions?

Visit <https://www.mass.gov/register-and-title-your-vehicle> for more information on how to register and title your vehicle.

Sincerely,

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles

TTLREG108_0722

Involuntarily Towed Vehicles

Towing companies sometimes tow vehicles for involuntary reasons, such as accidents, motor vehicle violations, or arrest warrants. Some of these vehicles are never claimed by their owners.

Towing companies must wait 104 days to process a title application and obtain ownership of an unclaimed vehicle and they must follow a specific process (created under MGL 159B, Section 6B and enforced under MGL 255, Section 39A). The following documents must be submitted at the service center or can be mailed to the Title Department; copies are acceptable.

- A completed Registration and Title Application (RTA)
- Affidavit of Sale for Involuntary Towed Vehicle (form TTL12)
- Certified letter to owner's last known address and the signed green certified return card receipt (a cop of the green certified return card receipt is acceptable)

NOTE: If the company does not have the return card receipt, a print out of the USPS tracking information can be accepted in its plate

- Newspaper advertisement that appeared for one day per week for three consecutive weeks in the city or town where the vehicle is stored (copies of the newspaper advertisement are acceptable)
- Letter to the police chief detailing the facts and indicating the intent to sell
- Bill of Sale to purchaser

NOTES:

1. Once the tow company perfects their lien, the secondary lien release is not required.
2. If there is an electronic lien on the title, the Title Division must unlock the file to process a title application.

Private Passenger Vehicle Definition Change

On October 1st, the definition of a Private Passenger Vehicle was expanded to allow pickup trucks and cargo vans with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 16,000 lbs or less, that are registered or leased to an individual or individual trust, and that are being used solely for personal use, to be registered with passenger plates. This means any vehicle registered to a company must still be registered with commercial plates.

Previously, customers with pickup trucks or cargo vans that were being used solely for personal use and were towing large campers, trailers, or horse carriers would have to register with commercial plates and obtain a US DOT number. With this change, customers can register these vehicles as private passenger vehicles and save money on their registration and inspection.

Since commercial plates expire in December, customers may choose to swap their commercial plates to passenger plates. This transaction will require a stamped Registration and Title Application (RTA).

Legal Definition of a Private Passenger Motor Vehicle (Per 540 CMR 2.0)

A Private Passenger Vehicle is any vehicle:

- a. which has a vehicle weight rating or curb weight of 6,000 lbs. or less as per the manufacturer's description of said vehicle; or is a sport utility vehicle or passenger van as per the manufacturer's description of said vehicle; or which is a pickup truck or cargo van with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 16,000 lbs. or less as per the manufacturer's description of said vehicle; or which is a vehicle used solely for official business by any college or university police department whose officers are appointed as special police officers by the colonel of the state police under M.G.L. c. 22C, § 63; and,
- b. which, if a pickup truck or cargo van with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 16,000 lbs. or less as per manufacturer's description of said vehicle, is registered or leased to an individual or individual trust, and is used solely for personal use; or is registered or leased to a college or university police department as described in subparagraph (a); and,
- c. which, other than a Personal Transportation Network Vehicle, is not described elsewhere in 540 CMR 2.05.

2.22: Markings on Commercial Vehicles

(1) Marking.

(a) Effective until August 31, 2018. The owner of every motor truck used for the transportation of goods, wares or merchandise for hire, gain or reward, shall have the owner's name marked on the truck, to be plainly visible from each side or from the front and rear of the vehicle, provided that motor trucks operated under a lease of more than 30 days shall display either the name of the owner or the lessee, and may display both. For the purpose of 540 CMR 2.22(1), motor truck shall mean any motor vehicle specially designed or equipped to transport personal property over the ways of the Commonwealth and which has a maximum load carrying capacity of over 2,000 lbs., and which is not a Private Passenger Motor Vehicle under 540 CMR 2.05. To the extent there is any conflict between 540 CMR 2.22 and any federal regulation pertaining to markings on commercial motor vehicles, the federal regulation shall control.

(b) Effective September 1, 2018. The owner of every motor truck used for the transportation of goods, wares or merchandise for hire, gain or reward, shall have the owner's name marked on the truck, to be plainly visible from each side, be in permanent letters that contrast sharply in color with the background on which the letters are placed; be readily legible during daylight hours from a distance of 50 feet while the motor truck is stationary; and be kept and maintained in a manner that retains the legibility required by 540 CMR 2.22(1)(b), provided that motor trucks owned or controlled by a farmer and used to transport agricultural products, farm machinery, and/or farm supplies to or from the farmer's farm; not used in the operation of a common or contract carrier, and used within 150 air miles of the farmer's farm need not be so marked; and motor trucks operated under a lease of more than 30 days shall display either the name of the owner or the lessee, and may display both. For the purpose of 540 CMR 2.22(1), Motor Truck shall mean any motor vehicle specially designed or equipped to transport personal property over the ways of the Commonwealth and which has a maximum load carrying capacity of between 2,000 lbs. and 10,000 lbs. and which is not a Private Passenger Motor Vehicle under 540 CMR 2.05. To the extent there is any conflict between 540 CMR 2.22 and any federal regulation pertaining to markings on commercial motor vehicles, the federal regulation shall control.

2.22: continued

(2) U.S. DOT Number Assignment for Intrastate Carriers. (a) Effective September 1, 2018, every motor vehicle engaged in intrastate commerce in Massachusetts having a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating of 10,001 or more lbs.; and every motor vehicle regardless of weight, engaged in intrastate commerce in Massachusetts and used in the transportation of hazardous materials in a quantity requiring placarding; and every motor vehicle designed to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver, used in intrastate commerce in Massachusetts must be permanently marked with a USDOT number assigned in a manner conforming to the provisions of 49 CFR 390.21.

(b) For purposes of 540 CMR 2.22(2), the following vehicles with a gross combination vehicle weight rating of 10,001 or more lbs., or designed to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver, which are operated solely within Massachusetts are exempted from the vehicle marking and DOT number requirements of 540 CMR 2.22(a):

- i. vehicles owned and operated by the Commonwealth or a political subdivision thereof city or town of the Commonwealth;
- ii. vehicles owned and operated by an agency of the Commonwealth;
- iii. vehicles carrying 'hazardous materials' that are owned and operated by a city, town or agency of the Commonwealth, but this exemption shall not apply to a private contractor transporting hazardous materials on behalf of a city, town or an agency of the Commonwealth;
- iv. Transit-type buses operated by cities or towns that are used to transport persons locally and which are already marked with the name of the municipal bus company or its logo;
- v. Buses operated by the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA), including the vehicles operated under the name 'The Ride,' or buses operated by Regional Transit Authorities (RTA's) that are used to transport persons locally and which are already marked with the name of the bus authority or bus company or its logo;
- vi. School buses and Section 7D school pupil transport vehicles that transport students and or pupils locally; and
- vii. Vehicles of professional driving schools that are used to provide driving skills training for Class A, B, or C commercial driver licenses.

(3) Penalty. The penalty for a violation of 540 CMR 2.22 is set forth in M.G.L. c. 90, § 20.

Thanks for attending!!

Remember, I'm just a phone call or email away:

Kathy S. Cormier

MAIA, Member Relations Advocate

kcormier@massagent.com

508-634-2900 (Office)

508-634-7353 (Direct)