

TRAFFIC NEWSLETTER

DMV Administrator's Office 1905 Lana Avenue NE Salem, Oregon 97314

Vol. 18 No. 3 July 2007

New centrally issued plastic cards have slightly different look and feel ● Oregon businesses and government agencies that ask for identification from customers and clients are beginning to see changes in driver licenses and ID cards issued by DMV.

Customers occasionally will present paper interim cards issued to customers who qualify for Oregon driving privileges or an ID card. Customers will carry this interim card until they receive their permanent plastic card within five to 10 days.

Also, the centrally issued permanent card will have a slightly different look and feel from the over-the-counter plastic card that DMV has been issuing since 2004:

- The new permanent card feels thinner and more flexible because it is printed on a more durable, tear-resistant plastic.
- The text and colors are clearer and more vibrant.
- The rainbow colors on the side, as well as the clear plastic laminate coating the entire card, extend to the edge of the card.
- The bar codes on both the interim and permanent cards also will change under the central issuance process. Businesses that scan the one-dimensional barcode (vertical lines) may get a false reading that a card is invalid. Those businesses may need to check with their software provider for an update. The two-dimensional barcode with a checkered appearance is not changing.

The centrally issued plastic card has the same security features as the cards DMV has been issuing since 2004. The requirements for obtaining driving privileges or an ID card – such as driving tests and proof of identity and residency in Oregon – will not change.

Businesses and government agencies that request identification documents from their customers and clients may request additional ID from customers presenting the paper interim card. The interim card is not a secure identification document. It is intended as proof that the person has qualified for a driver license, instruction permit or ID card. Oregon law requires people to carry a driver license or interim card whenever they are driving.

Both interim and new plastic cards already are being issued in the Eugene-Springfield area, where DMV piloted the transition to centralized issuance of cards in June. DMV will convert the rest of the state's field offices during the rest of the summer.

DMV is converting its field offices from over-the-counter issuance to centralized issuance of cards in preparation for anti-fraud "facial recognition" software, which must be in place on July 1, 2008, under SB 640 from the 2005 Legislature.

For details about centralized issuance and facial recognition, visit OregonDMV.com.

.....

SB 480 (Safety Restraints for Children) ● SB 480 expands on the use of automobile safety restraints for children and takes effect on July 1, 2007. The statute amends ORS 811.210 and 811.215. Provisions of the new statute are:

- A. Child passengers under one year of age, regardless of weight, or a child who weighs 20 pounds or less, must be properly secured in a child safety system in a rear-facing position.
- B. Child passengers who weigh 40 pounds or less must be properly secured in a child safety system.
- C. Children weighing more than 40 pounds and who are four feet nine inches or shorter, must ride in a child safety system which elevates them (i.e. booster seat) so the lap and shoulder belt fit them properly.
- D. Children eight years of age or older need not be secured with a child safety system, but must be properly secured with a safety belt or safety harness.

The bill renames the offense of “failure to use safety belts” to “failure to properly use safety belts” and “passenger failure to use safety belts” to “passenger failure to properly wear safety belts.”

The new literals to be used on Oregon driving records for these convictions are:

Failure to properly use safety belts is F PR USE S/BL

Passenger failure to properly use safety belts is PF/P USE S/B

.....

Registration for Undercover Vehicles ● Law allows federal, state, county, city and Indian Tribal law enforcement agencies, or parole or probation agencies that operate a vehicle for undercover criminal investigations, to request regular series (tree) plates for a vehicle.

These transactions must be mailed directly to DMV Headquarters to the attention of Confidential Records or be hand delivered to the Customer Service Counter at DMV Headquarters in Salem. These applications cannot be accepted at DMV field offices.

To title and register a vehicle, DMV must receive the following:

1. Ownership document. This may be a Manufacturer’s Certificate of Origin (MCO), Oregon title, out-of-state title or court documents. Releases from previous owners and security interest holders must be included on the title or on a separate document.
2. Completed Application for Title and Registration, Form 226. If the vehicle is to be registered in a fictitious name, complete an additional Form 226 showing the fictitious information.
3. Odometer disclosure, if the vehicle is less than 10 years old. This must be completed on the title or MCO, or on a Secure Odometer Disclosure/Reassignment, Form 403.
4. A letter from the head of your agency or department, describing the vehicle (year, make, VIN), stating it will be used for undercover criminal investigations and requesting that the plates be confidential.
5. If the vehicle is from out-of-state, a completed Vehicle Identification Number Inspection Form 11. A \$7 VIN fee must be paid in addition to the title and registration fees.
6. If registered within the Portland or Rogue Valley DEQ area, a passing DEQ Certificate of Compliance.
7. Title fee of \$55, \$5 for new plates and \$3.50 for registration.

All transactions involving undercover vehicles must be sent to:

DMV-Records Policy Unit
Attn: Confidential Records
1905 Lana Ave NE
Salem OR 97314

If you have questions about undercover vehicle plates, registering in a fictitious name or obtaining plates from other states that participate in the Mutual Exchange Agreement, please contact the Confidential Records Desk at (503) 945-5511.

.....

DMV To Distribute Updated Crash Reporting Form and Instruction Manual To Law Enforcement ● ODOT's Driver and Motor Vehicle Services (DMV), Transportation Safety Division, and Crash Analysis and Reporting Unit partnered with representatives from state, city and county law enforcement agencies to review and update the Oregon Police Traffic Crash Report form and crash reporting instruction manual. Both will be ready for distribution to law enforcement in September 2007.

Modifications to the form include more distinctive choices for the "Injury" fields. The new language makes it easier for DMV to identify whether the crash is required to be reported by all drivers involved in the crash, and it provides law enforcement more solid choices than the previous version.

"Latitude" and "Longitude" coordinate fields have been added to the form to measure more precise crash location. Not all law enforcement agencies have GPS equipment to complete these fields, but as opportunities arise for agencies to use GPS equipment in crash reporting, the form now has fields to record the information.

The instruction manual, last updated in 1997, describes every field in the crash report form and provides instructions on what information is required to complete each field. It also provides information on the laws governing police crash reporting.

In addition to the hard-copy manuals that will be distributed, the crash reporting instruction manual will be available to law enforcement from ODOT's Web site at www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TS/Traffic_Enforcement.shtml.

.....

2006 Oregon Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes Quick Facts ● Transportation Development Division has published the 2006 Oregon Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes Quick Facts on the internet at http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TDATA/car/CAR_Publications.shtml. This document http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TDATA/car/docs/2006_QuickFacts.pdf is a summary of the traffic crashes in Oregon during calendar year 2006.

.....

Motorcycle/Moped Temporary Registration ● DMV received a request from dealers and motorcycle/moped riders for a smaller motorcycle/moped temporary registration permit designed to mount on the rear license plate frame. Currently DMV and dealers issue a full size temporary registration permit for all vehicles including motorcycles/mopeds. Motorcycle/moped owners are unable to display the temporary registration on the windshield or on the rear of the vehicle because the permits are not weatherproof.

DMV has designed a motorcycle/moped temporary registration permit to fit in the motorcycle/moped license plate frame. The new permit is made of water resistant material and contains an inventory number (MT000000), effective date, expiration date, counter date and dealer number. Customers will receive and carry a paper copy of the permit that also contains the owner and vehicle information in addition to the information listed on the permit. DMV and dealers will begin issuing the new permits starting Aug. 15, 2007.

DMV trip permits for motorcycle/mopeds will continue to be the standard size. DMV would appreciate any information from law enforcement regarding problems associated with the new smaller motorcycle/moped temporary registration permit. Contact DMV Vehicle Programs Form Coordinator at 503-945-0866.

.....

Unendorsed Motorcyclists • Motorcycle fatalities are increasing not only in Oregon, but nationwide as well. About 20 percent to 30 percent of motorcycle fatalities are riders who are not properly endorsed. The Governor's Advisory Committee on Motorcycle Safety recently has been mailing advisory letters to Oregon residents who own a motorcycle and are not properly endorsed.

DMV records indicate that in 2005 there were 320 convictions for operating a motorcycle without the proper endorsement. Only eight of those 320 people subsequently obtained an endorsement. In 2006 there were 327 convictions, and four people have since obtained an endorsement.

The Governor's Advisory Committee on Motorcycle Safety wants to encourage court officials to require a person convicted of operating a motorcycle without an endorsement to provide proof that they obtained an endorsement.

Also, law enforcement officials may impound motorcycles if the driver is operating it without the proper driving privileges (ORS 809.720).

For additional information on motorcycle safety contact Michele O'Leary, ODOT Motorcycle Safety Program Manager at (503) 986-4198 or email michele.a.oleary@odot.state.or.us.

.....

ORS 811.147 (Fail to Maintain safe Distance from Emergency Vehicle) Brochure Released • ORS 811.147 became effective on Jan. 1, 2004. Since that time, numerous press events, newspaper articles and radio ads have been played and distributed statewide.

This brochure, http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/DMV/docs/traffic_newsletter/TSD4-93.pdf recently was developed and can be printed to hand out to the public as a communication tool for a law that is still called a "new" law by some.

In June 2004, DMV driver manuals were updated with this information, and DMV driving knowledge tests refers to the law requirement as well.

For additional information, contact Steve Vitolo, ODOT Law-Enforcement and Judicial Programs Manager, 503-986-4446.

Packets of 25 Brochures can be ordered from ODOT using the following information:

Form Number: 737-3461 (6/07)

Stock Number: 330540 (Packets of 25 Brochures- Limited to 8 packets per order).

To Order:

Contact Robert Gallagher, ODOT Safety Division 503-986-3883

Reference: "Move Over, It's the Law" brochures with stock number "330540".

.....

OREGON DRIVER AND MOTOR VEHICLE SERVICES