

CHAPTER 2
EVIDENCE OF CALIFORNIA REGISTRATION
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CHAPTER 2
EVIDENCE OF CALIFORNIA REGISTRATION

1. GENERAL.

a. Carrying of Documents. Various documents may be carried to indicate registration fees have been paid.

b. Acceptable Evidence of Fee Payment. The California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) issues many types of registration documents. Upon initial examination, the documents may appear to be proof of valid registration. However, many of the documents will reflect only partial fees have been paid or an incomplete application. Whenever a document is presented, it should be closely examined to ensure it is in fact valid proof of registration. Any of the following documents should be considered acceptable evidence of application for registration and/or payment of proper fees:

(1) Registration Card. A validated, current registration card or facsimile.

NOTE: Facsimiles of registration cards may be reduced in size from the original, provided all information is clearly legible.

(2) Temporary Receipt. A cashier's temporary receipt issued by the DMV.

(3) Suspense Receipt. A suspense receipt issued by the DMV, an automobile club, or an organization which performs a registration service.

(4) Money Order. A post office or express money-order stub.

(5) Check. A canceled check or check stub.

(6) Correspondence. Correspondence from the DMV indicating receipt of fees concerning the vehicle in question.

(7) Temporary Operating Permit. A valid temporary operating permit issued by the DMV.

(8) Report of Sale. A dealer's report of sale (ROS).

(9) Temporary License Plate. A temporary license plate (TLP) affixed to the vehicle.

2. REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS.

a. Evidence of California Registration. Evidence of California registration may be shown by any of several different documents and/or license plates, most of which allow the operation of a vehicle on California highways for a specific period of time. The length of the time period varies with the type of document up to a maximum of one calendar year, except for vehicles involved in the DMV Permanent Fleet Registration (PFR) program, as outlined in Chapter 5, California Commercial Vehicles, of this manual.

b. Original Registration. Registration documents may vary in appearance as the DMV operates a Business Partner Automation program that allows industry partners to process vehicle-related transactions from remote locations. When properly validated, the registration document is evidence of registration for the vehicle it describes for the time period indicated. California ownership or title certificates vary in color. Older certificates are pink in color, whereas more recently issued titles are multicolored documents with green as the predominant shade.

(1) Registration by Vehicle Type. The type of registration represented by the document will be printed somewhere upon the face of the document, including:

- (a) Automobile.
- (b) Motorcycle.
- (c) Trailer.
- (d) Commercial.
- (e) Off-highway vehicle.
- (f) Special equipment.

c. Permanent Fleet Registration. Vehicles involved in the DMV PFR program will be issued a registration card with the heading "Automobile-Perm. Fleet Reg." or "Commercial-Perm. Fleet Reg." The registration card will not contain an expiration date (refer to paragraph 7.d.).

d. Renewal Registration. Unless there is a change in the vehicle or owner information on the original registration card, a registration renewal card validated by the DMV will be the proof of registration for each subsequent year following expiration of the original registration document. Renewal documents are issued according to the same vehicle types as listed in paragraph 2.b.(1) and appear in one of the following formats:

(1) Enhanced Registration Renewal. The DMV enhanced registration renewal is an automated vehicle registration renewal process which is designed to encourage renewals by mail.

(2) Parking Violation Potential Renewal. Courts throughout the state report unpaid parking violations to the DMV. The owners of vehicles with unpaid parking violations on file will be issued a potential registration card which will include an itemization of outstanding parking violations. This document does not give the registered owner permission to operate the vehicle.

e. Partial-Year Registration. Commercial motor vehicles (CMV) registered on a partial-year basis, as permitted by Section 9700 of the California Vehicle Code (CVC), will be issued a registration card with the heading "Commercial-Partial Year Registration." An explanation of partial-year registration and enforcement guidelines is contained in Chapter 5 of this manual.

f. Apportioned and Prorate Registration. Apportioned or prorate (proportional) registration are methods by which CMVs operating in more than one state may be registered. This optional method of registration, which is available to California operators, as well as foreign-registered vehicles, allows the operator of qualifying vehicles to pay a portion of the required fees to each state in which they operate based upon the percentage of miles actually driven in each state. Detailed apportioned and prorate registration guidelines are contained in Chapter 6, Foreign Commercial Registration, of this manual.

g. Special Vehicle Identification. An identification card is issued with an identification plate for special vehicles not subject to registration. Included are special construction equipment, special mobile equipment, cemetery equipment, logging vehicles, farm vehicles, and implements of husbandry. Detailed identification-plate requirements are contained in Chapter 9, Implements of Husbandry, of this manual.

h. Permanent Trailer Identification Plate. Trailers and semitrailers are issued a certificate with a Permanent Trailer Identification (PTI) plate pursuant to Section 5014.1 CVC. A PTI plate may not be issued to a trailer coach or park trailer as described in Section 18009.3(a) of the California Health and Safety Code. The following are examples of vehicles that may be issued a PTI plate:

- (1) Logging dolly.
- (2) Pole or pipe dolly.
- (3) Semitrailer.
- (4) Trailer.

- (5) Trailer bus.
- (6) Auxiliary dolly or tow dolly.

NOTE: Pursuant to Section 5014.1(a)(2) CVC, a PTI plate may be issued for display on an auxiliary or tow dolly but is not required.

3. REGISTRATION DOCUMENT INFORMATION.

- a. Letter and Number Codes. Registration documents contain letter and number codes in order to provide a maximum amount of information in a minimum amount of space.
- b. License Type Code. The first digit of the license type code indicates the type of license plate issued for the vehicle. The most common codes are: 1-automobile, 2-motorcycle, 3-CMV, and 4-trailer.
- c. Vehicle Identification Number. The vehicle identification number (VIN) is a unique identification number assigned to a vehicle. In the case of 1955 and earlier model vehicles, it may be either the VIN or an engine number. The letters I, O, and Q are not used in a VIN.

NOTE: The tenth digit in the VIN indicates the model year of the vehicle (refer to the chart in Annex A).

- d. Engine Number. The engine number is required to be entered for a motorcycle or an off-highway vehicle registration. If the vehicle is powered by an electric motor, the serial number of the motor will be entered.
- e. Body Type. The body-type model is abbreviated to indicate as clearly as possible the body type of the vehicle. A listing of body-type models and the associated codes can be found on DMV's Web site located online at www.dmv.ca.gov.

NOTE: Commercial motor vehicles base-plated in California and registered through the International Registration Plan (IRP) are identified on the cab card by a distinctive two-letter code specified by the IRP (refer to Chapter 6 of this manual). Additionally, vehicle body-type model codes utilized by the DMV may not be consistent with those utilized by other jurisdictions.

- f. Motive of Power. The motive of power used to propel the vehicle is identified as follows:
 - (1) B–Butane.

- (2) D–Diesel.
- (3) E–Electric.
- (4) F–Flex fuel.
- (5) G–Gasoline.
- (6) M–Methanol.
- (7) N–Natural gas.
- (8) P–Liquefied petroleum gas or propane.
- (9) Q–Hybrid.
- (10) R–Hydrogen.
- (11) Y–Diesel-Hybrid.

g. Commercial Identification. The axle column is used for CMVs to indicate the number of axles installed (refer to Chapter 5 of this manual).

h. Unladen, Gross Weight, and Combined Gross Weight. The unladen, gross weight, and combined gross weight (Unladen/G/CGW) column is used for CMVs to indicate the weight fees that have been paid. The unladen weight of a CMV registered with weight fees paid pursuant to Section 9400 CVC, or the declared gross or declared combined gross weight of a CMV registered with weight fees paid pursuant to Section 9400.1 CVC will be displayed here (refer to Chapter 5 of this manual).

NOTE: Section 4454(a) CVC requires the registration document issued to the vehicle be maintained with the vehicle. It does not contain requirements related to the information on the registration document (e.g., body type, weight, number of axles). Therefore, a violation of Section 4454(a) CVC exists only when the registration document is not present with the vehicle or does not accurately identify the vehicle.

4. RECEIPTS AND TEMPORARY DOCUMENTS.

a. Cashier's Temporary Receipt. A cashier's temporary receipt is issued by the DMV as a receipt for fees paid for the vehicle described on the receipt. It is used when fees received are not validated on a registration card or when a change of ownership has taken place.

(1) Registration applications are usually processed by the DMV within 90 days.

(2) If 90 days or more have elapsed since the cashier's temporary receipt was issued, and there is no current validating sticker on the license plate, it is an indication that the application is incomplete and there is a violation of Section 4000(a)(1) CVC. If the license plate has a current validating sticker, there is an indication that a violation of Section 4462(b) CVC exists.

b. Suspense Receipt. A suspense receipt is issued in lieu of a cashier's temporary receipt when, for some reason, registration cannot be completed at the time of application. A Temporary Operating Permit (TOP) is usually issued in conjunction with a suspense receipt in a transaction where license plates are not issued. It is not necessarily evidence that full fees have been paid.

(1) Registration applications are usually processed by the DMV within 90 days.

(2) If 90 days or more have elapsed since the suspense receipt was issued, and there is no current validating sticker on the license plate, it is an indication that the application is incomplete and there is a violation of Section 4000(a)(1) CVC. If the license plate has a current validating sticker, there is an indication that a violation of Section 4462(b) CVC exists.

(3) Upon renewal of registration, the DMV will withhold the registration of certain vehicles with outstanding parking violations (refer to paragraph 2.d.[2]). If a vehicle owner disputes the existence or validity of an outstanding parking violation, the DMV will accept the registration fee due (to avoid penalties) and will issue a suspense receipt stamped "UNPAID PARKING VIOLATIONS. This receipt is not a temporary registration." Vehicles operating with only this receipt are in violation of Section 4000(a)(1) CVC. The impound policy for vehicles issued suspense receipts with this special stamp is contained in Chapter 1, Policy, of this manual.

c. Report of Deposit of Fees. When an application for registration is made which requires additional action on the part of the owner before the registration may be completed, the owner may deposit fees with the DMV. Although the DMV has collected registration fees, the registration process is not complete and permission to operate the vehicle has not been granted.

(1) The following are examples of circumstances in which this procedure is used:

(a) Additional fees required.

- (b) Certification of emissions-compliance required.
- (c) Improper or incomplete application.
- (d) Outstanding parking violations.
- (e) Errors in transferring ownership of a vehicle requiring additional documentation.

(2) A receipt will be issued to the owner acknowledging fees collected and a cover document is prepared describing the actions necessary to clear the transaction.

d. Temporary Operating Permit. A TOP is issued as a substitute for license plates in those transactions normally involving the issuance of a license plate. To be valid, this permit must be supported by one of the documents stated on the face of the permit and the VIN must match that of the vehicle described. Failure to have one of the documents listed on the face of the permit or failure of the VIN to match the vehicle described is a violation of Section 4000(a)(1) CVC, unless the document specifies that no supporting document is required.

(1) Temporary permits issued to dealers and transporters will bear the notation "In Lieu of Dealer Plates," and need not be accompanied by a suspense or cashier's receipt.

(2) The permit may be displayed on the rear window or in the right front windshield area.

5. LIMITED USE OF SPECIAL PERMITS.

a. Temporary Registration Permit. A temporary registration and/or permit may be obtained and used under various circumstances as follows:

(1) 90-Day Temporary Nonresident Registration. Temporary registration may be obtained for CMVs which meet the registration requirements of a foreign jurisdiction as prescribed by Section 4004 CVC. The temporary registration is valid for 90 consecutive days. Trailers and semitrailers based in a foreign jurisdiction are not required to obtain California registration. This provision does not apply to Mexico-based plated trailers.

(2) Exempt School Bus Temporary Permit. This permit may be issued as prescribed by Section 5010 CVC for one or more calendar months when a school bus leased to a school district temporarily reverts to the possession and control of the lessor, and becomes subject to vehicle registration requirements.

(3) Privately Owned Contract School Bus Temporary Permit. This permit may be issued as prescribed by Section 9102.5(b) CVC for one or more calendar months. It may be secured when a privately owned school bus with special annual registration, pursuant to Section 9102.5(a) CVC, is temporarily operated in such a way that it becomes subject to full registration.

NOTE: Upon issuance, the permit is marked on the reverse side to indicate the term of its validity, and must be displayed on the windshield or other prominent place on the vehicle for which it is issued.

b. Special Moving Permit–No Fee. A “no-fee” permit may be issued pursuant to Section 4002 CVC. When a vehicle is operated with such a permit, the vehicle is exempt from registration, provided the operation is in conformance with the permit restrictions.

(1) Registration Due. Operation in a manner other than specified on the permit causes registration to become due.

(2) Movement Authorized by Permit. The following movements are allowed by the permit:

(a) A vehicle not previously registered while being moved or operated from a dealer’s, distributor’s, or manufacturer’s place of business to a place where essential parts of the vehicle are to be altered or supplied.

(b) A vehicle while being moved from a place of storage to another place of storage.

(c) A vehicle while being moved to or from a garage or repair shop for the purpose of repairs or alterations.

(d) A vehicle while being moved or operated for the purpose of dismantling or wrecking the same, permanently removing it from the highways.

(e) A vehicle, while being moved from one place to another for the purpose of inspection by the Department, assignment of a VIN, inspection of pollution-control devices, or weighing the vehicle.

NOTE: Inspection by the Department means inspection for DMV registration purposes. It does not include movement for a commercial vehicle safety inspection conducted by the CHP.

(f) A vehicle, of which the construction has not been completed, until such time as the construction thereof is completed, and final weights and costs can be determined for registration purposes.

(3) Transportation of Property. The permit does not prohibit the transportation of property; however, the movement of property may be evidence that the vehicle is being operated in violation of the permit restrictions. For example:

(a) A boat trailer moved from one place of storage to another place of storage and transporting a boat that was already on the trailer would not necessarily be a violation of the permit. However, if the boat were picked up while the trailer was en route from one place of storage to another, it would constitute a violation of the permit.

(b) The transportation of a perishable cargo by a truck would be an indication that the vehicle was moved in violation of permit restrictions since a perishable cargo would not normally be stored on a vehicle.

c. One-Trip Permit. A “one-trip permit” may be obtained to move a vehicle for any of the reasons specified in Section 4003 CVC.

(1) For the permit to be valid, it must be obtained prior to any movement of the vehicle upon a highway.

(2) A one-trip permit may be used:

(a) To move a vehicle unladen for one continuous trip, from a place within California to a place either within or out of California, or from a place outside of California to a place within California.

(b) To move the vehicle for one round trip, from one place to another for the purpose of participating as a vehicular float or display in a lawful parade or exhibition. The total round trip cannot exceed 100 miles and must be completed within 60 days.

(3) A one-trip permit may not be used:

(a) By a loaded CMV unless the vehicle is being moved to participate in a parade or display.

NOTE: A one-trip permit may be used to move an unladen CMV which is being used for one of the purposes specified in paragraphs 5.c.(2)(a) or (b), and which has another vehicle “piggy back” mounted on it. The front or rear wheels of the mounted vehicle must rest upon the ground and support a portion of the weight of the mounted vehicle (a permit is also

necessary for the mounted vehicle if it is not properly registered). If the mounted vehicle is fully mounted (neither the front nor rear wheels resting on the ground), the CMV on which it is mounted is laden and cannot be operated with a one-trip permit.

(b) On an unregistered crane, registration or a no-fee special moving permit is required.

6. LICENSE PLATES.

a. Description and Use. California issues numerous types of license plates. Some license plates require a fee and others are fee-exempt. Examples of various license plates may be found on the DMV's Web site located online at www.dmv.ca.gov.

(1) Plates issued for automobiles, trucks, and trailers measure 12 inches in width by 6 inches in height.

(2) Plates issued for motorcycles and vehicles requiring only an identification plate measure 7 inches in width by 4 inches in height. Plates issued prior to July 1, 1970, measure 8 inches in width and 5 inches in height.

b. License Plate Design. Currently, California license plates are configured with blue characters on a white, reflectorized background with red script graphics. Other configurations issued in recent years include:

(1) Chrome yellow characters on a black background.

(2) Chrome yellow characters on a blue background.

(3) Blue characters on a white, reflectorized background with red and gold graphics.

c. Passenger Car License Plates. Passenger car license plates are normally issued to passenger vehicles. No weight fees are required for vehicles qualifying for these license plates.

(1) Standard passenger car license plates currently being issued by the DMV are of the seven-character configuration, consisting of a number followed by three letters then three numbers.

(2) The letters I, O, and Q are not used on standard license plates.

(3) Passenger car license plates are also issued for other vehicles for which weight fees are not required. Included in this category are:

- (a) Mobile cranes.
- (b) Forklifts.
- (c) Certain CMVs registered to disabled persons (refer to paragraph 6.h.).
- (d) Housecars.
- (e) Pickup trucks with permanently mounted campers.

d. Commercial Vehicle License Plates. Commercial vehicle license plates are issued to vehicles for which weight fees are required.

(1) Standard commercial vehicle license plates currently being issued by DMV are of the seven-character configuration, consisting of five numbers followed by a letter and a number.

(2) The letters I, O, and Q are not used on standard license plates.

(3) License plates currently being issued by DMV to prorate- or apportion-registered CMV bear the word "apportioned" on the upper portion of the plate. These plates are of the seven-character configuration, consisting of two letters followed by six numbers. Refer to Chapter 6, of this manual, for information concerning prorate and apportioned registrations.

(4) Six-character license plates consisting of a letter followed by five numbers or five numbers followed by a letter continue to be valid if currently registered.

(5) Registration fees, vehicle license fees, and weight fees are paid for the commercial vehicle license plate.

e. Motorcycle License Plates. Distinctive license plates are issued for motorcycles.

(1) Standard motorcycle license plates currently being issued by the DMV are of the seven-character configuration, consisting of two numbers followed by a letter and four numbers.

(2) An identification plate is issued to a moped or motorized bicycle. This is a permanent, nonrenewed plate. Ownership must be transferred.

f. Permanent Trailer Identification Plates.

(1) Permanent Trailer Identification plates issued to trailers have blue characters with the words “CALIFORNIA PERM TRAILER” in red across the top on a white, reflectorized background.

(2) Standard PTI plates currently being issued by DMV are of the seven-character configuration, consisting of a number followed by two letters then four numbers.

(3) License plates in use prior to the PTI program, which took effect December 31, 2001, were grandfathered into the PTI program. Trailers displaying environmental, special interest, and grandfathered license plates were issued a PTI sticker which indicates the trailer plate is registered pursuant to the PTI program (refer to Chapter 5, of this manual). The PTI sticker does not indicate a date of expiration.

g. Temporary License Plates. California dealers are required to issue and attach a TLP to a new or used vehicle that does not already display a California license plate. The TLP is printed on special synthetic paper and includes two security features: a silhouette of the State of California and a quick response (QR) code. The TLP configuration will include two alpha characters, two numerals, one alpha character, and two numerals, in that order, on all types of vehicles. In addition, it will include the ROS number, VIN, vehicle year, make, and TLP expiration date, which is 90 days from the date of sale. This information will also be included in the QR code. Automobiles, motor homes, and CMVs will be issued two TLPs, and motorcycles and trailers will be issued one TLP. A California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) inquiry made on a TLP that has been issued a permanent license plate will return to the permanent license plate number. A VIN inquiry in CLETS will not provide the TLP number and will only provide vehicle information if the vehicle has a permanent plate assigned. In order to receive vehicle information on a TLP through CLETS, option “K” (Temporary License Plate) must be selected from the license code drop-down menu. The ROS form is still required to be affixed for display on the vehicle at the time of sale.

h. Disabled Persons and Disabled Veterans License Plates. Special license plates are issued to disabled persons and disabled veterans. All disabled persons and disabled veterans license plates have a white, reflectorized background, and contain the International Symbol of Access (graphic of a white wheelchair on a blue background).

(1) Disabled Persons License Plates.

(a) Registration and vehicle license fees are paid for this plate.

(b) The plate may be issued for one CMV weighing less than 8,001 pounds unladen which is registered to a qualifying disabled person or one

CMV weighing less than 8,001 pounds unladen which is not registered to a qualifying disabled person, but which is used primarily for the transportation of such disabled person.

(2) Disabled Veteran License Plates.

(a) No fee is paid for this license plate.

(b) The license plate is available for only one vehicle owned by the veteran at any one time. The vehicle may be a motorcycle, a passenger motor vehicle, or a CMV weighing less than 8,001 pounds unladen. Pursuant to Section 9105 CVC, any type of commercial use invalidates the no-fee registration resulting in a violation of Section 4000(a)(1) CVC.

(3) Pursuant to Section 9410 CVC, weight fees described in Section 9400 CVC are not required. Weight fees described in Section 9400.1 CVC are required for a CMV, other than an electric vehicle or pickup truck defined in Section 471 CVC, operated either singly or in combination exceeding 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight. Refer to Chapter 5, of this manual, for information regarding enforcement of weight fees.

(4) Special parking privileges, as outlined in Section 22511.5 CVC, are granted to disabled persons and disabled veterans (refer to Highway Patrol Manual 100.68, Traffic Enforcement Policy Manual, Chapter 5, Other Enforcement Issues).

i. Special License Plates. In addition to standard license plates, the DMV issues many different types of special license plates. The descriptions and requirements of the special license plates may be found on the DMV's Web site located online at www.dmv.ca.gov or by referencing the applicable CVC section. Special license plates include, but are not limited to:

(1) Amateur Radio Station License authorized by Section 5005 CVC.

(2) Antique Motorcycle authorized by Section 5004.5 CVC.

(3) Breast Cancer Awareness authorized by Section 5156.7 CVC.

(4) California Legacy authorized by Section 5004.3 CVC.

(5) California Arts Council authorized by Section 5074 CVC.

(6) California Coastal Commission authorized by Section 5067 CVC.

(7) California Firefighter authorized by Section 5101.2 CVC.

- (8) California Memorial authorized by Section 5066 CVC.
- (9) California Museums authorized by Section 5169 CVC.
- (10) Citizen's Radio Service authorized by Section 5020 CVC.
- (11) Collegiate authorized by Section 5024 CVC.
- (12) Congressional Medal of Honor authorized by Section 5101.6 CVC. When issued for use on a CMV, weight fees are not required. (Refer to Section 9105 CVC for conditions.)
- (13) Environmental authorized by Sections 5101, 5106, and 5108 CVC.
- (14) Ex-Prisoner of War authorized by Section 5101.5 CVC. When issued for use on a CMV, weight fees are not required. (Refer to Section 9105 CVC for conditions.)
- (15) Foreign Organization authorized by Section 5006.5 CVC.
- (16) Gold Star Family authorized by Section 5156 CVC.
- (17) Historical Vehicle authorized by Section 5004 CVC.
- (18) Have a Heart, Be a Star, Help Our Kids authorized by Section 5072 CVC.
- (19) Horseless Carriage authorized by Section 5004 CVC.
- (20) Lake Tahoe Conservancy, also known as California Tahoe Conservancy, authorized by Section 5075 CVC.
- (21) Legion of Valor authorized by Section 5101.4 CVC.
- (22) Legislative authorized by Section 5002.8 CVC.
- (23) Livery license plates are no longer issued. However, existing plates remain valid and can be renewed.
- (24) Commemorative 1984 Olympic Games authorized by Section 5022 CVC. These license plates are no longer issued. However, existing plates remain valid and can be renewed.
- (25) Commemorative Olympic authorized by Section 5023 CVC. These license plates are no longer issued. However, existing plates remain valid and can be renewed.

(26) Pearl Harbor Survivor authorized by Section 5101.3 CVC.

(27) Pet Lovers authorized by Section 5168 CVC.

(28) Press Photographer authorized by Section 5008 CVC.

(29) Privately Owned School Bus authorized by Section 9102.5 CVC.

(30) Yosemite Foundation authorized by Section 5064 CVC.

(31) Purple Heart Recipient authorized by Section 5101.8 CVC. If the registrant qualifies as a disabled veteran, weight fees are not required when issued for use on a CMV. (Refer to Section 9105 CVC for conditions.)

(32) Veterans Organization authorized by Section 5068 CVC.

j. Special Equipment Identification Plates. An identification plate is issued for special construction equipment, special mobile equipment, cemetery equipment, logging vehicles, farm vehicles, and implements of husbandry pursuant to Section 5015 CVC. Refer to Chapter 7, Special Vehicles, of this manual for information on display requirements.

(1) The plate is valid for five years.

k. Farm Vehicle Identification Plates. An identification plate is issued for certain farm vehicles pursuant to Section 5014 CVC. Refer to Chapter 9 of this manual for information on display requirements.

(1) The plate is valid for five years.

l. Occupational Licensee License Plates. Special license plates are issued for vehicles operated by dealers, distributors, manufacturers, remanufacturers, dismantlers, and transporters. The single plate must be displayed upon the rear of any unregistered vehicle being operated in compliance with the guidelines contained in Chapter 8, Dealers, Manufacturers, Distributors, Transporters, and Dismantlers, of this manual.

(1) Pursuant to Section 11715 CVC, the display of an occupational licensee license plate is required to operate a vehicle not currently registered upon a highway. When the vehicle is operated without the display of this license plate, a violation of Section 4000(a)(1) CVC exists.

m. Exempt Agency License Plates. License plates are issued for vehicles owned or leased by agencies exempt from vehicle taxation.

- n. Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Identification Decal. The off-highway motor vehicle identification indicia, issued pursuant to Section 38160 CVC, is a decal which expires on the 30th day of June in the second calendar year following the date of issuance.
- o. Motorcycle Transportation Permit. A Motorcycle Transportation Permit will be issued, pursuant to Section 38088 CVC, to those motorcycles whose owners certify the motorcycle is used solely in organized racing or competitive events, for the purpose of identifying the motorcycle while it is being transported upon the highway to and from racing events on a closed course. No ownership certificate or registration card will be issued with a transportation permit.
- (1) Color. The color of the sticker is orange and silver.
 - (2) Expiration. The permit is valid until the motorcycle is either transferred to a new owner or dismantled.
- p. License Indicia Issued by the Federal Government.
- (1) Military Vehicles.
 - (a) Any vehicle that is owned by the military is exempt from the registration fees imposed by a state or local jurisdiction. The five branches of the federal military system identify their vehicles by either U.S. government license plates, or a painted abbreviation of the military branch and serial number stenciled on the rear of the vehicle.
 - (b) Each branch of the military has a recreational service section. Vehicles owned by the recreational service section are part of the military fleet and, as such, are exempt from registration fees. Pickup trucks with camper units, house trailers, and tent trailers are common military recreational service vehicles.
 - (2) Diplomatic License Plates. The Office of Foreign Missions of the U.S. Department of State issues license plates for vehicles owned by foreign missions and their authorized representatives. The federal license plates replaced the special diplomatic and consular plates issued by various jurisdictions. There are three categories of license plates in the series:
 - (a) Representatives of Foreign Missions (nationwide).
 - (b) Representatives of Foreign Missions (United Nations).
 - (c) Representatives to the Organization of American States.

7. REGISTRATION RENEWAL INDICIA.

a. Evidence of Registration Renewal. Renewal of vehicle registration is evidenced by a sticker or stickers. All vehicles, except those to which permanent indicia are issued, must display a registration renewal device.

(1) The type of sticker(s) issued varies according to the method of registration.

(2) When properly attached to the license plate assigned to the vehicle, the license plate and sticker(s) shall be deemed to be the license for the registration period indicated.

(3) All applicable provisions of the CVC relating to license plates apply to renewal stickers. Therefore, if a person removed a renewal sticker from the vehicle for which it was issued and displayed it on another vehicle, a violation would exist (Sections 4000[a][1] and 4462[b] CVC).

b. Full Annual Registration Renewal. Renewal indicia is issued for all annual renewal license plates.

(1) Two stickers are initially issued. One indicates the month of expiration, the other indicates the year.

(a) The day of the month on which the registration expires is indicated on the registration card.

(b) All applications for renewal must be submitted and fees paid on or before the date of expiration.

(2) The color of the sticker indicating the year of expiration is changed each year. The DMV currently sequentially rotates five colors to indicate the year of expiration: blue, yellow, red, green, and orange. The sequence will then repeat starting once again with blue.

c. Partial-Year Registration.

(1) Two stickers are initially issued. One indicates the month of expiration, the other indicates the year.

(a) The color of the sticker indicating the year of expiration is changed each year and has the letters "PYR" on the sticker.

(b) The month sticker has the month indicated and the letters PYR also on the sticker.

- (2) Partial-year registration expires on the last day of the month indicated.
- d. Permanent Fleet Registration. Upon original application, each vehicle registered under the PFR program is issued a permanent sticker which is placed on the license plate issued to the vehicle.
- (1) These stickers are not issued to a specific vehicle but are issued in blocks equal to the number of vehicles registered to the company under PFR.
 - (2) The company continues to pay registration fees for the vehicle until the license plate, sticker, and registration card issued to that vehicle are surrendered to the DMV.
 - (3) There are no additional external indicia to be attached to the vehicle in subsequent years.
 - (4) The DMV previously issued metal tabs (yellow PFR on black background) instead of stickers. Those tabs have been permanently phased out and are no longer valid.
- e. Permanent Trailer Identification Renewal.
- (1) A database maintenance fee must be paid to the DMV every five years.
 - (2) Renewal indicia will not be issued.
 - (3) When the DMV record indicates the PTI has expired, a violation of Section 4000(a)(1) CVC exists.
- f. Occupational Licensing Renewal Sticker. In an effort to curb suspected misuse of occupational licensee plates, the DMV has developed a special occupational licensee renewal sticker to be attached to occupational licensee plates upon renewal.
- (1) A month-of-expiration sticker will be displayed on these plates.
 - (2) Any occupational licensee plate without current indicia is not valid.

ANNEX A
MODEL YEAR CHART

10th Digit	Year	Year
A	1980	2010
B	1981	2011
C	1982	2012
D	1983	2013
E	1984	2014
F	1985	2015
G	1986	2016
H	1987	2017
J	1988	2018
K	1989	2019
L	1990	2020
M	1991	2021
N	1992	2022
P	1993	2023
R	1994	2024
S	1995	2025
T	1996	2026
V	1997	2027
W	1998	2028
X	1999	2029
Y	2000	2030
1	2001	2031
2	2002	2032
3	2003	2033
4	2004	2034
5	2005	2035
6	2006	2036
7	2007	2037
8	2008	2038
9	2009	2039

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