

# Motor Vehicle News & Views

A publication of the Hillsborough County Tax Collector's Office Volume 3, Issue 3

October 2004

## Four More Years

by Durelle Freid

Doug Belden will serve as Hillsborough County Tax Collector for four more years after running unopposed in this year's election. Mr. Belden, President of The Florida Tax Collectors, Inc., are looking forward to continuing to provide efficient and friendly customer service to Hillsborough County citizens.



Doug Belden

Doug and the employees of the Hillsborough County Tax Collector's Office take pride in the relationship that has been established with its customers and are continually striving to provide excellence in customer service. Recently,

the DMV, with the support of The Florida Tax Collectors, Inc., decided to waive the service fee charged to customers to process renewals online. Additionally, CVR (Computerized Vehicle Registration) and DTA (Dealer Tag Agency) are two great partners of our office that continue to provide valuable customer service to our dealerships.

Doug and The Florida Tax Collectors, Inc. will continue to fight for good legislative bills that will improve the effectiveness and efficiencies throughout the Tax Collectors' offices in the state of Florida.

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## Introducing "expedited title"

by Dawn Antinori

The intent of the expedited title process is to provide dealerships and registered owners a more efficient way to obtain a paper title when a lien has been satisfied by an ELT (Electronic Lien Title) participant.

The expedited title process is only available on those records that have electronic liens. The lien holder would systematically release their lien and indicate that an expedited title is needed.

The expedited title request is then held by the department and remains there until the dealership, owner, or lien holder requests that the title be printed. If the ELT lien holder makes the electronic request by 2:00 p.m., the title will be available for printing the morning of the next business day at your local Hillsborough County

Tax Collector's office. The \$7 fast title fee will be charged at the time the title is issued.

Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles, Carl A. Ford said, "Expedited title also reduces cost. The lien holder avoids postage, overnight courier and staffing costs associated with waiting for inbound titles. Once received, the titles are sent forward to the waiting parties. Expedited Title would allow an authorized party to pick up the title directly at the county fast title office."

"The bottom line is the expedited title process will provide better customer service and increase efficiencies," Tax Collector Doug Belden said. "It's a good deal for us and a great deal for dealerships, owners and lienholders."

## Kuhn buys Lindell Motors



Kuhn Honda – Volkswagen was purchased from Carl Lindell in February of 2004. The principal owner, Jason Kuhn, is also the general manager. The dealership has complete sales, service, and parts departments on premises at 3900 West Kennedy Blvd., as well as a body shop on Florida Avenue. The business sells approximately 4000 new and pre-owned vehicles per year and services roughly 30,000 cars on an annual basis. The dealership generates about \$100 million dollars of sales revenue per year.

Jason Kuhn was born and raised in Allentown, PA. He received degrees in both business and law. Upon graduation from New York University School of Law, Mr. Kuhn practiced law in New York City before joining the family car business in South Florida. After running several dealerships for the Braman group in Miami, Mr. Kuhn purchased Direct Imports, a BMW, VW, Porsche, and Acura dealership in Gainesville, FL. He sold the Gainesville dealership in 2000, after deciding to relocate to the Tampa area. In early 2004, Mr. Kuhn purchased the assets of Lindell Motors, a Honda and VW dealership on West Kennedy Blvd.

Mr. Kuhn is very active in the community and sits on the board

of directors of several non-profit agencies. He is also a board member of the Florida Automobile Dealers Association. He is 35 years old, married, and has one child.

Visit Kuhn Honda – Volkswagen on the web at [http://www.kuhn honda.com/en\\_US/](http://www.kuhn honda.com/en_US/)



**Kuhn Honda—Volkswagen will deliver your new car to your home or office.**

## Florida's Tax Collector's conference to be in Tampa

**By: Ann Murray**

Due to the impending strike of Hurricane Ivan, the 2004 Florida Tax Collector's Fall Conference that was originally scheduled to be held in downtown Tampa this past September has been rescheduled for the week of January 9 – 12, 2005.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor at our conference or would like to donate goodie bag items for our conference attendees, please contact:

Nancy Millan  
601 E. Kennedy Blvd., 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Tampa, Fl. 33602  
[Millan@hillstax.org](mailto:Millan@hillstax.org)

Sponsorship offers great networking opportunities and means of building new relationships with organizations affiliated with Tax Collectors in all 67 counties of the State of Florida.

As the Hillsborough County Tax Collector's office will host the conference at the Marriott Waterside, it would be a great forum for highlighting our local dealerships.

### We've got your number

**DMV Help Desk**  
(850) 922-9000

**Local MV Info**  
(813) 635-5200

**Dealership Hotline**  
(813) 612-6719

**MH Construction**  
(813) 740-4298

**Local Motor Carriers**  
(813) 740-4300

**You can also find more  
telephone numbers on  
our web site at  
[www.hillstax.org](http://www.hillstax.org)**

## Florida Legislature adds more specialty license plates

Coming soon to an office near you... Twelve new license plates were approved this year bringing our grand total of specialty license plates to one hundred. The new license plates will support Family First, Family Values, Sportsmen's National Land Trust, Parents Make a Difference, Live the Dream, Support Soccer, Imagine, Kids Deserve Justice, Discover Florida's Oceans, Animal Friend, Aquaculture, and Save Our Seas.

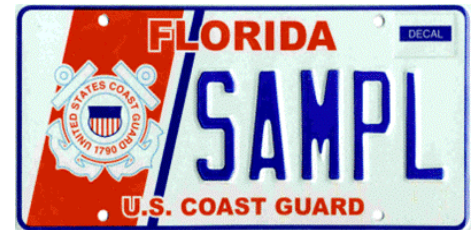
### All Gave Some, Some Gave All... Specialty license plates currently available



**License Plate:** U.S. Army  
**Date Enacted:** July 1, 2003  
**Special Fee:** \$15 annual fee  
**Cumulative Plates Issued:** 398  
**Cumulative Amount Generated:** \$6,300.00  
**Distribution of Special Fee:** State Homes for [Veterans](#) Trust Fund



**License Plate:** U.S. Air Force  
**Date Enacted:** July 1, 2003  
**Special Fee:** \$15 annual fee  
**Cumulative Plates Issued:** 356  
**Cumulative Amount Generated:** \$5,430.00  
**Distribution of Special Fee:** State Homes for [Veterans](#) Trust Fund



**License Plate:** U.S. Coast Guard  
**Date Enacted:** July 1, 2003  
**Special Fee:** \$15 annual fee  
**Cumulative Plates Issued:** 120  
**Cumulative Amount Generated:** \$1,905.00  
**Distribution of Special Fee:** State Homes for [Veterans](#) Trust Fund



**License Plate:** U.S. Marine Corps  
**Date Enacted:** July 1, 1999  
**Special Fee:** \$15 annual fee  
**Cumulative Plates Issued:** 33,064  
**Cumulative Amount Generated:** \$1,278,577.00  
**Distribution of Special Fee:** State Homes for [Veterans](#) Trust Fund & [Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation](#)



**License Plate:** U.S. Navy  
**Date Enacted:** July 1, 2003  
**Special Fee:** \$15 annual fee  
**Cumulative Plates Issued:** 375  
**Cumulative Amount Generated:** \$5,790.00  
**Distribution of Special Fee:** State Homes for [Veterans](#) Trust Fund



**License Plate:** U.S. Paratroopers  
**Date Enacted:** July 1, 2003  
**Special Fee:** \$20 annual fee  
**Cumulative Plates Issued:** 1,198  
**Cumulative Amount Generated:** \$25,820.00  
**Distribution of Special Fee:** State Homes for [Veterans](#) Trust Fund

## Lost title?

By April Johnson

Customer trades a vehicle into a dealership and the dealership either sells the vehicle to another customer or wholesales it to an auction or dealer. While in transit between dealerships/auctions the title is lost.

What can be done?

DMV Procedure Manual TL 05-07 states the original dealership can complete form HSMV 82101, duplicate title application, to apply for a duplicate title. The original customer must complete the transfer of title by seller section on the duplicate, transferring title to the dealership to which they traded the vehicle.

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## Aggressive drivers - A growing threat

by Tori Sydnor

A threat that is being faced in increasing numbers today is the aggressive driver. These individuals climb into their automobiles and take out their high levels of frustrations on anyone at any time with a low level of concern for fellow motorists. They are easily identified as they run stop signs, red lights, speed, tail gate, weave in and out of traffic, scream (complete with hand and facial gestures), honk and flash their lights. The high rates of speed at which they barrel along our highways and roadways cause them to: follow too closely, change lanes frequently and abruptly without signaling, pass on the shoulders of roadways and leer at and/or threaten verbally or through gestures, those of us thoughtless enough to be in front of them.

What can be done? Avoid confrontations of an aggressive driver and support law enforcement's effort to rid the streets and highways of this menace.

Some tips to handle this confrontation when it occurs are listed below:

- Get out of their way.
- Never challenge them by speeding up or attempting to hold your own in your travel lane.
- Wear your seat belt. It will hold you in your seat in case you need to make an abrupt driving maneuver and will protect you in a crash.
- Avoid eye contact, ignore gestures and refuse to return them.
- Report aggressive drivers to law enforcement by providing a vehicle description, license plate number, location, and if possible, direction of travel.
- If you have a cellular phone, and can do so safely, call law enforcement--many have special numbers (i.e. #HCSO or \*FHP).
- If an aggressive driver is involved in a crash, stop a safe distance from the crash scene, wait for law enforcement to arrive, and report the driving behavior that you witnessed.



## Non-fulfillment of contract, vehicle repossessed; What is next?



By Rosemary Johnson

This is a question that comes up all too often when a customer is in default of a contract and the selling dealer is also the lienholder. The dealer must apply for a Certificate of Title in their name or a Certificate of Repossession before they can sell the vehicle to a new owner. Here is some information we would like to share with you:

- A certified copy of the lien contract is no longer required on a repossessed vehicle. But, still required when a vessel is repossessed.
- When applying for a Certificate of Title in the lienholder's name, the lien should not be satisfied on the title. (If the lien is satisfied in error, a letterhead affidavit from the lienholder stating the facts is needed).
- If the title is unavailable, an affidavit stating the Certificate of Title has been lost or destroyed must be submitted along with the application for Certificate of Title.
- Notification of intent to repossess must be sent to any subsequent lienholder. The subsequent lienholders have 15 days to provide the department written protest. Prior to the 15 day period, no repossession application will be processed for the vehicle.
- When applying for a Certificate of Repossession, the title is not needed at the time of transaction. The title is required when the vehicle is sold to a new owner. The title would then be signed by the lienholder over to the new owner and the Certificate of Repossession is attached.
- If the Certificate of Repossession is lost or destroyed after issuance, the lienholder may apply for a duplicate Certificate of Repossession.
- If the title is lost and unavailable after the Certificate of Repossession is issued, and the lienholder wishes to sell the vehicle, the lienholder MUST apply for a certificate of title.
- A Certificate of Repossession cannot be issued when the DMV database reflects "Electronic Title."
- A Certificate of Repossession can only be issued when there is a Florida record.

For further information please refer to DMV procedure # TL-23 which can be found at the following web address:

<http://www3.hsmv.state.fl.us/Intranet/dmv/Manuals/DMVProcedures/BTR/tl/T&Lcontents.htm>

**A dealer class on "How to Prepare the Paperwork for Title and Registration" will be held from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm on the following dates:**

- January 20, 2005
- February 17, 2005
- March 17, 2005

**All classes will be held at the Hillsborough County Tax Collector's North Tampa office at 9309 N. Florida Ave., Suite 111**

**To sign up for this class or for more information, please contact Rosemary Johnson in the Training Department at 813-612-6703 or [johnsonr@hillstax.org](mailto:johnsonr@hillstax.org).**

## Tax Collectors office relocates

By: Mary Anne Young



On June 23, the Hillsborough County Tax Collector's office formerly known as Horizon Park relocated to the Waters Crossing Shopping Center at 6283 W. Waters Ave. The new West County office is situated just west of the Veterans Expressway and shares a huge parking lot with neighboring businesses including Target, Lowe's, and Don Pablos. West County has an expansive lobby area with mounted televisions which provide news and entertainment to the waiting public. This is a full service office, processing Driver License, Motor Vehicle, and Tax & License transactions.

The grand opening ceremony and office dedication to the Veterans of Hillsborough County was held on October 15. Entertainer Belinda Womack performed a stirring rendition of the National Anthem and the

President of the Hillsborough County Veterans Council, Mr. Dave Braun, served as the honorary guest speaker. Delicious refreshments were offered and helpful information from several agencies, including law enforcement and DMV, was distributed to the public during the celebration.

Lynette Suszynski leads West County as the Office Manager with the aid of Odette Brencons as Assistant Manager. Both stress excellence in customer service and the maintenance of a positive working environment to benefit the thirty-four employees, which includes six supervisors.

Doug Belden has demonstrated the utmost commitment to bringing service to the public in a positive work environment with the highest level of professional customer service.



## Options added for title owners

By Dawn Antinori

An option has been added to print the legal description of the relationship between the vehicle owners on the certificate of title. If there are two or more owners, you may select a legal ownership description. The choices are "Life Estate/Remainder Person," "Tenancy By the Entirety," or "With Rights of Survivorship."

Whenever a legal ownership description is chosen, it will print on the title with the owner names. An abbreviation of the description will

print with the names on the 82041.

The following describes how to complete the form HSMV 82040 when selecting one of the above listed legal descriptions:

Life Estate/Remainder Person The name of the life estate person should be shown in the "owner's" area of the form. The remainder person should be shown in the "co-owner's" area. You must still choose "and" or "or", prior to choosing "Life Estate/Remainder

Person" as the legal description. Only the life estate person would be required to sign the application for title, as the remainder person would only be a beneficiary.

With Rights of Survivorship The owner must be shown on the form as the "owner." The additional person would be the co-owner and must be shown in the "co-owner's" area of the form. You must still choose "and" or "or," prior to choosing "With Rights of

**Continued on next page**

# Relationships from previous page

Survivorship" as the legal description. Both owners must sign the application for title.

Tenancy By the Entirety The owner must be shown on the form as the "owner." The co-owner must be shown in the "co-owner's" area of the form. You must still choose "and" prior to choosing "Tenancy By the Entirety" as the legal description. Both owners must sign the application for title.

The DMV Procedure TL-18 has been updated to reflect this change and has been posted on the Internet. You can access the DMV procedure manual from the Hillsborough County Tax Collector's website at [hillstax.org](http://hillstax.org), or directly from the state website at <http://www.hsmv.state.fl.us/html/titlinf.html>

## Word Search



E A U T O M O B I L E N C A E  
 F D E T I D E P X E M O B S C  
 F S P O T L I G H T M I B S N  
 E L C I H E V G E P L S I O E  
 C F L O R I D A U L K S P C R  
 T N O I T A R T S I G E R I E  
 I S R O T C E L L O C S O A F  
 V R U Y T R E L A E D S C T N  
 E A O Q I R A D N O H O E I O  
 N E F Z P M A N U A L P D O C  
 E Y E S R E V I R D T E U N O  
 S D T B L I C E N S E R R M U  
 S L E G I S L A T I V E E O N  
 Y C N E I C I F F E N X I R T  
 A G G R E S S I V E R G N E Y

- AGGRESSIVE
- ASSOCIATION
- AUTOMOBILE
- BILLS
- COLLECTORS
- COMPUTERIZED
- CONFERENCE
- COUNTY
- DEALER
- DRIVERS
- EFFECTIVENESS
- EFFICIENCY
- EXPEDITED
- FLORIDA
- FOUR
- HONDA
- LEGISLATIVE
- LICENSE
- MANUAL
- MORE
- PROCEDURE
- REGISTRATION
- REPOSSESSION
- SPOTLIGHT
- TAG
- TRAINING
- VEHICLE
- YEARS