

Motor Vehicle News & Views

A publication of the Hillsborough County Tax Collector's Office Volume 8, Issue 3

3rd Quarter 2009

A Message from Doug Belden, Tax Collector

Dear Dealerships & Title Services,
I would like to take this opportunity to update you regarding the passage of Senate Bill 1778 and House Bill 5011 during the 2009 Legislative session that will take effect on September 1, 2009.

The bill raises the state fees significantly for driver licenses and the registration and titling of all automobiles, boats and mobile homes. Many of the transaction fees have more than doubled in cost.

My staff and I understand these are difficult economic times for any taxpayer to reach deeper into their wallets as we have also felt the harsh effects.

The revenues generated from these



Doug Belden

increases will be remitted back to the state. Our office will not receive any portion of the registration fees. None of these increased fees will stay in Hillsborough County to fund local services. DMV has stated that the new fees will be imposed on all transactions processed or dropped off in our offices on or after September 1st (not based on the sale date).

My staff is here to assist you with any questions you may have. Find further details on our website by [clicking here](#).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Doug Belden

A one day seminar on preparing Paperwork for Title and Registration will be held on:

September 18th - November 20th

To sign up online [click here](#), or contact our Training Department at 813-635-5238 or via email at training@hillstax.org

Fee Changes That Will Affect You



Collecting the appropriate fees for title and registration is an important part of a dealer transaction. Now it's even more imperative that you collect these fees at the point of sale. State legislators were faced with a \$6 billion deficit this year, and needed to raise revenues. Passage of Senate Bill 1778 and House Bill 5011 significantly increases fees for motor vehicle and driver license. If previously a transaction cost you \$180 plus state sales tax, beginning Sept. 1, this same transaction will cost an estimated \$390 plus sales tax.

In the pages of this newsletter, we have included important information, procedures, and breakdowns of fees to assist you through this transition. Remember the new fees will not be assessed based on your date of sale. Any work not in our office before September 1st will be assessed the new fees. Here are a few samples of the upcoming fee changes starting in September.

Transfer title with original registration (used car purchase)

for example: a used Toyota Camry with the Sea Turtle plate
Total title and registration, including initial registration fee
Before: \$209.85
After: \$396.40
Percent change: 89%




Original title (new car purchase)




for example, Toyota 4Runner
Total title, and registration, including initial registration fee
Before: \$191.85
After: \$403.90
Percent change: 110%

The price to renew a registration will rise by as much as 66%, in some categories. Renewals on compact cars such as the Honda Civic or Toyota Yaris will rise from \$26.10 to \$46.65, on a mid size car such as the Nissan Altima or Toyota Camry from \$36.10 to \$57.65 in addition, sedans and utility cars such as the Chevy Impala or Toyota 4Runner from \$46.10 to \$71.15. These fees do not include Specialty or Personalized fees.

This is a good time to use the Motor Vehicle Look Up system to verify a previous license plate for your customer. This will save them the Initial Registration fee that is increasing from \$100 to \$225. Also, if a customer is purchasing a registration prior to the September date, they can opt to renew for two years, saving a considerable amount of money. Just remind your customers there are no refunds if they cancel the registration before the two-year period is over.

Registration Fee Increases

Registration Fees for Vehicles		
Vehicles Under 2,500 lbs. 	Current Cost	New Cost
	\$28.10	\$46.65
Vehicles 2,500 - 3,499 lbs. 	Current Cost	New Cost
	\$36.10	\$57.65
Vehicles over 3,500 lbs. 	Current Cost	New Cost
	\$46.10	\$71.15

Registration Fees for Trucks		
Trucks under 2,000 lbs. 	Current Cost	New Cost
	\$28.10	\$46.65
Trucks 2,000 - 3,499 lbs. 	Current Cost	New Cost
	\$36.10	\$57.65
Trucks over 3,500 lbs. 	Current Cost	New Cost
	\$46.10	\$71.15

Miscellaneous Registration Fees		
	Current Cost	New Cost
Initial Registration Fee	\$100.00	\$225.00
Processing Fee- Personalized Plates	\$2.00	\$5.00
Processing Fee- Specialty Plates	\$2.00	\$5.00

The information contained herein is provided by the Hillsborough County Tax Collector's office as a convenience to you. While every effort is made to provide accurate fees, the State has not completed their programming so we can not warrant that the information is free from error.

Title Fee Increases

Transfer Florida Certificate of Title				
Example of current titled FL vehicle transferred to new owner (Casual Sale)				
	Current Cost	New Cost	Difference	% Increase
Transfer of FL Title	\$29.75	\$75.75	\$46.00	154.62%
Original Certificate (MCO) of Title with Lien				
Example of a new vehicle purchased at a Dealership				
	Current Cost	New Cost	Difference	% Increase
Original Certificate of Title	\$33.75	\$79.75	\$46.00	136.30%
Original Certificate of Title Out-of-State				
Example of an Out-of-State vehicle transferred to Florida				
	Current Cost	New Cost	Difference	% Increase
Original Certificate of Title	\$33.75	\$85.75	\$52.00	154.00%
Other Miscellaneous Title Charges				
	Current Cost	New Cost	Difference	% Increase
Fast Title Fee	\$7.00	\$10.00	\$3.00	42.86%
Title Mail Fee (from DHSMV)	\$0.00	\$2.50	\$2.50	

West County Says Good-Bye



Lynette Suszynski has been an employee of the Hillsborough County Tax Collectors office for 35 years. *(The price of gas at that time was \$.55 a gallon).* Starting her journey in 1974, Lynette has worked in all offices with the exception of Plant City and Processing Operations. West County (formerly known as Horizon Park) has been her 'home away from home' for the past 15 years. There have been many accomplishments for Lynette over the years such as, Supervisor of the year, in 1989, 1990, 1991 and

manager of the year in 1994. The Horizon Park office was the first to install the Q-Matic system. *(The average cost of a new house was \$34,900.)* This was a revolutionary way to streamline our processes and manage the customer flow more quickly and efficiently. Lynette was honored to be part of the review team that saw firsthand how the system worked. *(Top five TV shows in '74 were Kung Fu, The Price is Right, The Waltons, Kojak, and The Six Million Dollar Man.)* Drivers License issuance was another major endeavor that she was involved in. *(Popular singers of 1974 were Barry White, Abba, Genesis, Grateful Dead, Alice Cooper, and The Velvet Underground.)* Horizon Park was the 2nd Tax Collectors Office in Hillsborough County to offer limited Drivers License services

and now processes more Drivers License transactions than any of the other branch offices. *(Top five films in '74 were The Sting, The Exorcist, Blazing Saddles, Herbie Rides Again, Murder on the Orient Express, The Great Gatsby.)*

Lynette states that "Though managing a full service office has had some challenges, I have been privileged to work with a great staff that has made my job enjoyable and rewarding. West County has had a strong management team with a dedicated front-line staff that focuses on good customer service and respect within the work place. West County was a great office to manage; and will continue to be a great office when I retire because West County has great people working there!"

The Tax Collectors office would like to say farewell to a great manager and friend, we will miss you Lynette!

Internet Hot Links...It pays to surf the 'Net!!

Tax Collectorwww.hillstax.org

State of Florida www.myflorida.com

State DHSMV office..... www.hsmv.state.fl.us/html/titlinf.html

Dept of Revenue.... dor.myflorida.com/dor/

Hillsborough County Government www.hillsboroughcounty.org

From the desk of Gary Konopka, Region VI, BFO

There have been several legislative changes as a result of this year's legislature. Probably the most significant deals with increases in automotive related fees and I am sure they will be discussed elsewhere in this edition. One easily overlooked new fee involves a rebuildable vehicle undergoing inspection at the DMV Regional office. The initial inspection fee is still \$40; however, a \$20 re-inspection fee will be charged if the vehicle fails the inspection. The initial inspection fee will probably be collected at the time the documents are submitted for initial review.

Rebuildable vehicles and vehicles that are assembled from parts must be inspected by DMV personnel. The purpose of this inspection is to assure the vehicle's identity and verification of the bill of sale or title for major component parts used. We do NOT conduct a safety inspection or a road worthiness inspection.

The Bureau of Field Operations has lost some positions due to budgetary constraints and as a consequence, our curbstoning enforcement efforts will be reduced. We are no longer allowed to have personnel deliberately just focusing on curbstoning violations. While we are enroute from Point A to point B and we encounter a curbstone violation, we can take enforcement action.

Mini trucks have now been categorized as motor vehicles. F.S. 320.01 (45) has been added and it defines a Mini Truck as: "Mini truck means any four-wheeled, reduced dimension truck that does not have a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Truck Classification, with a top speed of 55 MPH, and which is equipped with headlamps, stop lamps, turn signal

lamps, taillamps, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, windshields, and seat belts." A mini truck can only be operated on streets where the posted speed limit is 35 MPH or less. A mini truck must be registered and insured and its operator must have a valid driver's license. An entity that desires to sell new mini trucks to the public must obtain a Florida Franchise Motor Vehicle Dealer License.

Effective July 1, 2009, Florida Statute 319.22(2) now requires an individual who sells or transfer a motor vehicle to notify DMV HQs within 30 days of the sale/transfer. HSMV Form 82050 (**Notice of Sale and/or Bill of Sale for a Motor Vehicle, Mobile Home, Off-Highway Vehicle or Vessel**) will be used to do so and this specifically is targeted at casual sales !

Effective October 1, 2009, when an independent dealer sells a vehicle, the dealer will have to issue an electronic Temporary License Plate to the buyer. This applies even when there is a regular license plate to transfer. Apparently some dealers are taking a good bit of time to process a plate transfer and this legislative action will ensure vehicle/plate information is promptly entered into the state vehicle database. Once the regular license plate transfer is processed and accepted, the temporary tag registration will be cancelled. This provision will expire on June 30, 2010 because effective July 1, 2010, all license plate transfers will have to be electronically reported to DMV HQs.

