

County Clerk Spring Conference – 2024 – Vehicle Services

New License Plates:

- 3087 – USTA (Play Tennis)
- 3066 – Tiger Haven
- 3077 – Improve Hendersonville
- 3089 – Fisk University
- 3083 – Atlanta Braves
- 3138 – Retired Firefighter
- 3096 – Coast Guard Medal
- 3097 – Coast Guard Commendation Medal
- 3492 – Air Force
- 3493 – Army
- 3494 – Coast Guard
- 3495 – Marine Corps
- 3496 – Marine Corps League
- 3497 – Navy
- 3498 – Reserve Forces
 - Decals for branch of service no longer placed on plates, except for Surviving Spouse, Retired, and Honorably Discharged. Not new medal, new registrants only, if someone wants new plate will need to pay the \$2.00 fee.
- 3076 – Honoring Law Enforcement
- 3098 – Nashville SC (soccer club)

J plates (Joint Plates) VS. H plates: Joint plates are for farm/agricultural use while H plates are for commercial use in the state of Tennessee, H plates are non-apportioned, meaning they cannot go across state lines, if the customer advises the vehicle will be for commercial use outside of the state of Tennessee, they need to be directed to Motor Carrier for Apportioned tags.

Commercial Vehicle Registrations: Tennessee Code Annotated § 55-4-113(a)(2) requires commercial plates for vehicles operated “for commercial purposes.” The Department of Revenue views the statute to require commercial plates for a vehicle whose primary and principal use is for commercial purposes. In general, the registration of a vehicle in the name of a business indicates that it is being used for commercial purposes and should have commercial plates. However, where a vehicle is registered to a business but is primarily used for non-commercial purposes, such as an employee’s personal vehicle, the registrant may provide an affidavit certifying that the primary use of the vehicle is non-commercial. In this situation, the Department would advise county clerks to accept the affidavit and issue passenger plates for the vehicle.

Public Chapter 52 Disabled Person License Plates: Public Chapter 52 eliminates the disabled person license plate fee for any owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is the parent or legal guardian of a person who uses a wheelchair because of a permanent incapacity for ambulation.

Masons plate – Reminder, that the spouses name does NOT HAVE TO BE ON THE title. This plate is available to the certified member of the free and accepted Masons and their spouse.

License Plate Membership: Vehicle Services recently reviewed license plate classes that require membership credentials. Based on the T.C.A and guidance from legal many of these only require proof at initial application. We have updated the system which will allow many customers to renew online or via kiosk without any issues.

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Public Chapter 159 Electric and Hybrid Renewal Fee: Public Chapter 159 increases the renewal fee for all-electric vehicles and creates a renewal fee for hybrid and plug-in hybrid vehicles. These fees only apply when a vehicle registration is renewed. The fee is not collected at initial registration. If the VIN decodes as electric or any kind of hybrid the new fee is collected at renewal. This is effective January 1, 2024. <https://vpic.nhtsa.dot.gov/decoder/>

T.O.D on an out of state title: T.O.D or transfer of death is not a conjunction recognized in the state of Tennessee, we did recently add this information to the Transfer of Ownership Guide Page.

Mileage on new to state transactions: If the ownership is not changing and someone is moving in from out of state and they do not have the title typically the customer will provide an estimate and once we receive that out of state title we issue with the actual miles on the title.

Lemon Law- Mfg. buyback branding: These titles do not meet the definition of “junk” in Tennessee, Tennessee does not have a lemon law; therefore, these titles would be issued with no brand.

Surety Bonds: Vehicle Services Anti-Theft unit now processes Surety Bond applications. We ask that all required documentation and applications for Surety Bonds please be submitted to Suretybond.Title@tn.gov. This is a recent change, but we do not seem to receive as many calls or Zendesk's checking on the status for these applications since Vehicle Services took over the process.

NMVTIS helpful hints –

- If you receive a NMVTIS warning when attempting to issue a title, **please do not override**, these transactions need to be sent in as an incomplete.
- If there is NMVTIS theft data, the transaction will need to be sent in as an incomplete even if the stop is removed from VTRS.
- County Clerks can build a record out of archive, as long as NMVTIS matches you can proceed, if not we can update NMVTIS for you.
- If you assign a title number and then void, that title may have hit NMVTIS and will need to be removed.
- If NMVTIS prompts for a newer out of state title and the TN resident is trying to get a duplicate title the customer will need to reach out to that state.
- Some "title" numbers are the date in certain states, California for example.
- Cherokee Nation and other Indian Nation titles are not in NMVTIS.
- Government vehicles are not on NMVTIS
- CSOT (Change State of Title Error) Vehicle Services will have to reach out to either AAMVA or the other jurisdiction to have this cleared from NMVTIS. Please be advised these do take time as we have to wait to hear from AAMVA or the other jurisdiction.
- Many states do not put trailers in NMVTIS.

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Legislation:

Pub Ch.	Subject	Abstract	Effective Date
555	Motor Vehicles, Titling, and Registration	Disabled Persons - As enacted, replaces references in the Disabled Drivers Law of 1975 to persons "who are permanently and totally confined to a wheelchair" with references to persons "who use a wheelchair because of a permanent incapacity for ambulation". - Amends TCA Title 55, Chapter 21, Part 1.	March 11,2024
569	Motor Vehicles, Titling, and Registration	Motor Vehicles, Titling and Registration - As enacted, requires official vintage license plates that are issued and registered by the state in lieu of the standard antique motor vehicle registration plate to be displayed on antique motor vehicles when they are being operated on public roads and highways or are stationary; allows holders of standard antique motor vehicle registration plates to display unofficial, unregistered vintage license plates only when the vehicle is stationary; requires such holders to display the standard plate while the vehicle is being operated on public roads and highways. - Amends TCA Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 1 and Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2.	7/1/2024
519	Motor Vehicles, Titling, and Registration	Motor Vehicles, Titling, and Registration - As enacted, authorizes licensed chiropractic physicians to issue certified statements of disability in the same manner as physicians for a person's application for a disabled registration plate, decal, or placard. - Amends TCA Title 55, Chapter 21.	March 1 ,2024
520	Motor Vehicles, Titling, and Registration	Motor Vehicles, Titling, and Registration - As enacted, permits an owner or lessee of a motorcycle to receive a disabled decal to affix to a new specialty earmarked, cultural, or other special purpose plate that is authorized for motorcycles. - Amends TCA Title 55, Chapter 21 and Title 55, Chapter 4.	3/1/2024
528	Motor Vehicles, Titling, and Registration	Motor Vehicles, Titling, and Registration - As enacted, authorizes, upon request, the department of revenue to issue lien-free salvage certificates of title to a salvage pool operator under certain circumstances. - Amends TCA Title 55, Chapter 3, Part 2	7/1/2024
SB1593/ HB1601 8	Motor Vehicles, Titling, and Registration	Omnibus bill - new plates	7/1/2024
HB2075	Motor Vehicles, Titling, and Registration	States that Department of Revenue shall, on or before 6-30-26 procure and implement an electronic lien and title system.	6/30/2026
HB465/S B517	Motor Vehicles, Titling, and Registration	Requires the Department of Revenue to annually compare the owners of disabled placards to the Department of Health's death records. Additionally, it requires DOR to invalidate any placard of a deceased owner. The bill is effective upon becoming law. However, it says beginning January 1, 2025, and each year after we must compare the records.	January 1,2025