Electra Theodorides-Bustle

Executive Director



Charlie Crist
Governor

Bill McCollum Attorney General

Alex Sink Chief Financial Officer

(850) 617-3102

Charles Bronson
Commissioner of Agriculture

CONTACT: ANN NUCATOLA

2900 Apalachee Parkway Tallahassee, Florida 32300-0500 www.flhsmv.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JULY 27, 2009

NEW LAW PROTECTS VEHICLE SELLERS

~ Sellers now have 30 days following transaction to file form ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Selling your vehicle? If the answer is, "yes," then you must notify the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or your local tax collector. Florida law now requires individuals selling a motor vehicle in the Sunshine State to submit a Notice of Sale (**Form HSMV 82050**) within 30 days of a sale.

"The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles is pleased to see this important consumer protection provision incorporated into law," said Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles Carl Ford. "We have always recommended that sellers provide us with a Notice of Sale, but the new requirement means more people will file the necessary form and protect themselves as a result."

Newer certificates of title include a perforated portion on the top back that sellers can complete and mail to the Department or local tax collector after the sale of the vehicle. Sellers also may use a Notice of Sale (available online at www.flhsmv.gov/dmv/forms/BTR/82050.pdf) to provide the required notification. Sellers also can request a copy of the form from a DMV regional office or their local tax collector's office.

How does this new requirement protect a seller? Filing the form will remove the seller's registration from the vehicle, which may protect a seller from possible liability relating to the use of that motor vehicle if the new owner fails to transfer the vehicle title. The form also documents the sale and provides a receipt of the transaction. The Department encourages sellers to have buyers accompany them to a local office to have the vehicle title properly transferred, and we encourage sellers to maintain a copy of the Notice of Sale (preferably notarized), a copy of the certificate of title or other type of transaction document evidencing the sale.

To provide consumers with useful information, the Department recently posted both a buyer's and seller's guide online at www.flhsmv.gov/SafetyTips/Vehicles.htm. The seller's guide provides protective measures one can take before, during and after a sale, while the buyer's guide explains what to look for when car shopping, describes buyers' rights, and includes a list of questions to ask. It also provides information on Florida's new car lemon law, warranties, titles and much more.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov.

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STATE OF FLORIDA

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES, Neil Kirkman Building - Tallahassee, FL 32399

Notice of Sale and/or Bill of Sale for a Motor Vehicle, Mobile Home, Off-Highway Vehicle or Vessel

	Notice of Sale (Seller ONLY must complete sections 1 & 3). Purchaser does not need to sign.						
	Bill of Sale (Seller and purchaser must complete sections 1, 2, when applicable & 3)						
1. Motor Vehicle, Mobile Home, Off- Highway or Vessel Description							
Year		Make/Manufacturer	Body Type	Model	Color		
Certificate of Title Number			Identification Number				
I do hereby sell or have sold and delivered the above described motor vehicle, mobile home, off-highway vehicle or vessel to:							
Print Name(s) of Purchaser(s)							
Address			(City		Zip Code	
Date of Sale Selling price \$							
2. Odometer Disclosure Statement (Required For a Motor Vehicle)							
Federal and State law requires that you state the mileage in connection with the transfer of ownership. Failure to complete or providing a false statement may result in fines and/or imprisonment. WE STATE THAT THIS MOTOR VEHICLE'S 5 DIGIT OR 6 DIGIT ODOMETER NOW READS .xx (NO TENTHS) MILES, DATE READ/, AND WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE THE ODOMETER READING: 1. REFLECTS THE ACTUAL MILEAGE. 2. IS IN EXCESS OF ITS MECHANICAL LIMITS. 3. IS NOT THE ACTUAL MILEAGE.							
3. Certification							
UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING DOCUMENT AND THAT THE FACTS STATED IN IT ARE TRUE.							
Seller's Signature		Seller's Printed Nam	Seller's Printed Name				
Seller's Address			City		Zip Code		
Co-Seller's Signature (if applicable)		Co-Seller's Printed I	Co-Seller's Printed Name (if applicable)				
Co-Seller's Address (i		ss (if applicable)	City		State	Zip Code	
Purchaser's Signature		Purchaser's Printed	Purchaser's Printed Name				
Co-Purchaser's Signature (if applicable)		Co-Purchaser's Prin	Co-Purchaser's Printed name (if applicable)				

OWNERSHIP STATUS FOR THE ABOVE DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLE, MOBILE HOME, OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE OR VESSEL WILL NOT CHANGE UNTIL THE PURCHASER APPLIES FOR AND IS ISSUED A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.