Message from the Indiana Department of Financial Institutions
Update from Secretary Lawson

The new Plates on Demand preview sessions on November 4, 2016 were well attended. Participants provided very positive feedback on the new interim plate system. The office posted a Power Point presentation and webinar from the session to walk dealers through the creation of their new online dealer account and issuance of interim plates through the new Plates on Demand system. You may view the Power Point presentation and webinar on our website, at http://www.in.gov/sos/dealer/4299.htm.

The Auto Dealer Services Division will be sending information to current dealers in the coming weeks containing instructions for setting up a Microsoft Azure account, if you do not already have one, and will be creating your online dealer account via the new portal. As part of setting up your online account, you will be able to set user roles for your staff. In order to avoid disruption to your business, please do not wait to set up your account! As a reminder, Phase 1 is anticipated to go live end of quarter, and includes the new Plates on Demand system. In order to issue interim plates in the new system, you must have your account set up and linked. Phase 2, slated for summer 2017, will bring many more online services. We will be posting updates on the Auto Dealer Services website as we get closer to Phase 1 of the new system going live, so please keep an eye on the alerts page.

With the launch of our new licensing system fast approaching, it's time for us to start thinking about what to call it. And we want your input! Naming suggestions can be sent to dealers@sos.in.gov through mid-February. For reference, our current system is simply “DLS” (Dealer License System). While not the most creative, it is quick and easy to refer to. Please send your ideas!

Sincerely,

Connie Lawson

Franchise Submission
(For those selling new motor vehicles)

The Division will begin sending requests with renewal notices that dealers currently selling new motor vehicles and new watercraft submit a current copy of their franchise. As part of transitioning to our new dealer licensing system, we want to make sure all of our records are current. Your cooperation with this effort is greatly appreciated.
New and Updated Dealer Forms

In conjunction with our system update, we have embarked on some significant form updates. The best way to make sure you are using the latest version of a form is to download or print it from our website: http://www.in.gov/sos/dealer/2383.htm. This will be especially key once the new system launches, as the forms and system have been designed to complement each other. Using an outdated version of a form may delay the processing and approval of your application or request.

Updating Your Bond and Insurance

If your bond or insurance expires or is canceled, you must submit an updated bond or insurance. The new bond or insurance should be submitted promptly. Do not wait until your dealer license renewal date to submit your new bond or insurance. Once the new licensing system is in place (est. February 2017), your license will be suspended should our records show that your bond or insurance is expired or canceled and there is no new bond or insurance to take its place. Dealers with suspended licenses will be unable to do business or access Plates on Demand.

Update from the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles

Beginning January 1, 2017, the length of time an individual can drive a newly purchased vehicle on Indiana roadways without registering the vehicle increases from 30 to 45 days. For not more than 45 days after the date on which the person acquires the vehicle, a person who purchases the vehicle may display on the newly acquired vehicle a valid and unexpired license plate transferred from another vehicle that the person disposes of by sale or other means. The manufacturer's certificate of origin, certificate of title, or a bill of sale must be in their possession.

Also beginning January 1, 2017, the delinquent fee for a late registration will be called an “administrative penalty,” and will be changing. Indiana residents will be assessed an administrative penalty when registering a vehicle, off-road vehicle, or snowmobile more than 45 days after the date of purchase or acquisition.
Displaying a Transferred License Plate

If a customer purchases a motor vehicle and wishes to display a valid and unexpired transferred license plate on their new vehicle as described above, it is a good idea to verify that their plate will be valid for 45-days. This will ensure that the customer can continue to operate the motor vehicle during this time. A dealer may not issue an interim license plate after the date of sale, or the date on which the customer took delivery of the motor vehicle, whichever is earlier. This means that a customer who decides to use a transferred license plate cannot later obtain an interim license plate from you in the event the license plate expires within the 45-day window.

Message from the Indiana Department of Financial Institutions

For dealers engaged in financing and registered with the Indiana Department of Financial Institutions (“DFI”), annual renewals (State Form 70 – Creditor’s Notification Return) are being placed in the mail the week of December 12. This form must be completed and returned to DFI by January 31, 2017. A list of all entities registered, licensed, or chartered with the DFI can be found at http://extranet.dfi.in.gov/ConsumerCredit.

If you did not receive the annual renewal form by the end of December, or have any questions, you may email DFI at dfilicensing@dfi.in.gov.

MVAB Meeting 11/21

The Motor Vehicle Advisory Board (MVAB) met on Monday, November 21st. The agenda and discussion were centered primarily on the Division’s planned legislative efforts for the upcoming 2017 legislative session. The MVAB plans to meet again during the legislative session for an update, but a date for that meeting has not yet been set. Members of the public are welcome to attend advisory board meetings and the date and location of each meeting, as well as minutes from past meetings, should be available on our website: http://www.in.gov/sos/dealer/4261.htm. There you can also view a list of the current MVAB members.
Contact us!

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