



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

▪ MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION ▪

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David M. Curry, Revenue Commissioner ▪ Brent Bennett, Director

NOTICE TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES Extension of Private Sales Exemption Through May 15, 2020

What is the purpose of this notice?

Due to concerns regarding the COVID-19 coronavirus, the Georgia Department of Revenue's Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) will not require motorists in Georgia who purchased a used motor vehicle in a private sale (sales not involving a licensed motor vehicle broker or dealer) on March 16, 2020 or later to have a license plate until after May 15, 2020. That means that any driver with a valid Bill of Sale dated March 16, 2020 or later in the vehicle will be able to drive the purchased motor vehicle on the highways and streets of Georgia through and including Friday, May 15, 2020 without a new license plate. This applies to all vehicles for which a license plate can be issued, including personal passenger vehicles and commercial vehicles. This extension does not apply to motor vehicles purchased through a Georgia broker or dealer.

What do I need to do as the purchaser of a motor vehicle?

If the county tag office in your county of residence is open, you should apply for the title and register the motor vehicle within seven (7) days of the purchase of the motor vehicle. However, if you purchased the vehicle on or after March 16, 2020 (the Bill of Sale or assigned Certificate of Title should confirm the date of purchase) and you cannot get to your county tag office due to the COVID-19 epidemic, then you may rely on this bulletin. Print a copy of this bulletin and place it in your glovebox along with a copy of your Bill of Sale (or properly assigned Certificate of Title). Law enforcement officers may ask to review the Bill of Sale to confirm that you qualify for this extension.

MVD is also sending copies of this bulletin to Georgia law enforcement agencies, but all officers may not receive the notice before conducting a traffic stop (and officers in other states may not receive it at all). If a law enforcement officer notes that the motor vehicle does not have a current, valid license plate, the driver can present a copy of this bulletin to notify the officer of the automatic extension granted by MVD.

What do I need to know as a law enforcement officer?

Some Georgia motorists who purchased a motor vehicle from an individual or business other than a motor vehicle broker or dealer will not be able to register their vehicles within the normal seven (7) day period due to the closure of county tag offices. Therefore, MVD is granting an extension of the seven-day period through Friday, May 15, as long as the driver produces a Bill of Sale (or properly assigned Certificate of Title) showing the vehicle was purchased on or after March 16, 2020. Such motor vehicles without a valid license plate should not be treated as out of compliance with the registration and license plate requirements until Saturday, May 16, 2020.



For more information, please visit the Motor Vehicle Division website at dor.georgia.gov/motor-vehicles or scan the QR code.