## TEMPORARY TAG DATABASE

- Nearly instant access to the information inputted by the licensee and accessible thru TLETS by law enforcement by running the vehicle specific number on the tag.
- Licensees may not place a temporary tag on a vehicle until they acquire the vehicle-specific number from the state database.
- Non-licensees will not have access to the database.
- System will stop the licensee from issuing tags on salvage or stolen vehicles.

#### LICENSEE'S OPTIONS TO ISSUE TAGS

- (1) Copy the information provided by the database onto pre-printed cardboard, drawing in letters and numerals with a permanent thick black marking pen.
- (2) Print out the image of the information provided by the database.

ALL temporary tags must also be **sealed** in at least a 2 mil clear poly bag. if they are not printed on a weather-resistant material.

ALL tags will be black and white.

ALL tags are to be displayed in the rear license plate area. Rear window display is no longer allowed.

#### BUYER'S TAG

- Only 1 issued per retail sale;
- Expiration date of 60 calendar days calculated by the database.
- Contains the vehicle specific number, expiration date, vehicle information, and seller information.
- Vehicle must have a current inspection sticker.



#### DEALER'S TEMPORARY TAGS

Dealer's temporary tags either assigned to the vehicle or assigned to an agent:

- Can only be used for in-transit, road testing, demonstration to a prospective buyer, or for use by charitable organizations and parades.
- Can be used to facilitate the movement of vehicles in large numbers; such as from auctions.
- Cannot be used on laden commercial vehicles or dealer's service or work vehicles; such as parts vehicles, courtesy vehicles with dealer signs, etc.
- ➤ Can be used on courtesy or loaner vehicles without dealer signs.
- Cannot be used for personal affairs or certain business affairs by the dealer; such as trips to the bank, convenience store, or restaurant.
- Prospective buyers who are "test driving" a demo for several days or over the weekend are allowed to use the vehicle with the dealer tag for personal affairs.
- ➤ Vehicle does NOT need to display a current inspection sticker.
- Tags may be issued for any length of time up to 60 days.

# DEALER'S TAG – ASSIGNED TO VEHICLE

 No limit on how many dealer tags may be issued, but only 1 issued to a vehicle at one time.



## DEALER'S TAG – ASSIGNED TO AGENT

- May be issued to dealership personnel or agents of dealers such as drivers or transporters.
- Tied to a specific agent not a specific vehicle.

- Dealer is responsible for the tag since the dealer issued the tag to the dealer's agent to drive a vehicle owned by that dealer.
- Agent's name is not on the tag but it will be on the TLETS return.



#### CONVERTER'S TAGS

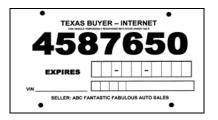
- Can only be used by converters for the purpose of in-transit, road testing, and demonstration.
- Converter's temporary tags can only be used on unregistered conversion vehicles to demonstrate or transport conversions and CANNOT be used for a converter's or an employee's personal use.
- Does not need to display a current inspection sticker.



#### INTERNET DOWN TAG

- Used when the dealer cannot access the internet.
- Blank template that requires the dealer to fill in all information except the vehicle specific number.
- Licensee must turn in sales information to the state by a vehicle to the Internet tag in the state database.
- Is used just like buyer's tags and is issued for 60 calendar days.
- Should print all allocation in advance.

- Will expire if not used within 12 months and must be voided before 12 months expires.
- Licensee may obtain additional tags as they are used or expire.
- Are required to be kept secured.
- Licensee is required to report to DMV if the tags are lost, stolen or destroyed.
- Handwritten buyer's receipt should accompany these tags.



#### BUYER'S AND DEALER'S RECEIPT

Upon entering the database information, two forms will be printed by the dealer – buyer's tag receipt and dealer's copy of the buyer's receipt.

- Buyer's receipt must be kept by the buyer in their vehicle until the vehicle is registered and titled in their name.
- Receipt will have detailed information on the sale of the vehicle – i.e. pre-printed tag number, dealer's name and dealer number.
- Similar receipt forms will be printed for dealer tags or converters tags.
- DMV recommends but does not require that dealers keep a copy of the dealer's tag receipt in the vehicle and in the case of an agent tag, we recommend keeping a copy of the receipt with the agent.

# SUGGESTED ENFORCEMENT STEPS

Upon stopping the vehicle, we suggest the following:

- (1) Check the date of expiration.
- (2) Check that the tag is filled out completely.
- (3) Check for alterations, white-out & mark-overs.
- (4) Check for a current inspection sticker.
- (5) Check the tag receipt and match with the temporary tag and the TLETS return.

Other items to check or verify:

- (1) Dealers are required to remove all out-of-state plates prior to offering a motor vehicle for sale on their licensed premises. Temp tags cannot be displayed on a vehicle with an out-of-state plate on it.
- (2) Cannot be displayed on salvage vehicles.

Upon transfer of title and submitting the \$5.00 tag fee to the registration office, an "end date" will be placed in the database on the tag. This means that there may be drivers on the road with a current temporary tag being displayed on the vehicle but the database showing the tag as expired. We then suggest that the law enforcement officer may want to run the vehicle's VIN to verify if the vehicle's registration is current.

In regards to law enforcement response, the following suggestions are only recommended to the extent they do not contradict your agency's departmental policy. When taking any enforcement action, use officer discretion and the facts at hand. If the dealer is in your county or city, write a citation to the dealer and not the driver, unless it is a counterfeit temporary tag. The dealer is responsible for the proper placement of the tag and most times, the buyer is unaware of a dealer violation and is an innocent third party.

TRAINING AND

INVESTIGATIVE ASSISTANCE

DMV can provide additional free training in temporary tags, unlicensed sales, and motor vehicle dealer laws. DMV is contracted by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education to provide training courses. Courses offered by DMV may be submitted to the Commission for credit.

For more information, please contact DMV at: MVD LawEnforcementTraining@txdmv.gov or (512) 416-4911.

For investigator assistance or law enforcement complaint referrals, please call (512) 416-4911.

# KNOW THE LAW #5



# LAW ENFORCEMENT'S GUIDE TO THE TEXAS DEALER LAWS PART I

Temporary e-Tags



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