

# Florida

## Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

### *Division of Motorist Services*

<b>PROCEDURE</b> RS-26	<b>SUBJECT:</b> DEALER AND MANUFACTURER LICENSE PLATES	
<b>DESCRIPTION AND USE:</b> THIS PROCEDURE PROVIDES INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS TO ASSIST TAX COLLECTOR EMPLOYEES, LICENSE PLATE AGENCY EMPLOYEES, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES FOR ISSUING DEALER AND MANUFACTURER LICENSE PLATES.		
<p>I. PROVISIONS OF LAW:</p> <p>Section 320.13(1)(a), Florida Statutes, authorizes the issuance of dealer license plates to motor vehicle dealers or mobile home dealers licensed by the state of Florida, upon payment of the license tax imposed by section 320.08(12). Dealer license plates are valid for use on motor vehicles and/or mobile homes owned by the dealer to whom such plates are issued while these vehicles are in inventory and for sale, or while being operated in connection with their business. Dealer license plates are not valid for use on for hire motor vehicles. A dealer license plate may not be used on any tow truck or wrecker unless the tow truck or wrecker is being demonstrated for sale. A dealer license plate may not be used on a vehicle, which transports another motor vehicle for the dealer.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> This statute is not referring to mobile home dealers that deal exclusively in mobile homes. Instead, it is to allow a mobile home dealer that also deals in recreational vehicles to obtain dealer plates for use on the recreational vehicles in their inventory (see IV, A, 3 in this procedure).</p> <p>Section 320.13(1)(b)(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the issuance of dealer license plates to marine boat trailer dealers and manufacturers for use on boat trailers owned by the dealer to whom such plates are issued while being used in connection with the dealer's business, but are not valid for use on for hire boat trailers.</p> <p><b><u>Section 320.13(1)(c), Florida Statutes, provides that a dealer of heavy trucks as defined in s. 320.01(10), upon payment of the license tax imposed by s. 320.08(12), may secure one or more dealer license plates that are valid for use on vehicles owned by the dealer to whom such plates are issued while the heavy trucks are in inventory and for sale and are being used only in the state for demonstration purposes. The license plates may be used for demonstration purposes for a period not to exceed 24 hours. The license plates must be validated on a form prescribed by the department and must be retained in the vehicle being operated.</u></b></p> <p>Section 320.13(2), Florida Statutes, authorizes the issuance of manufacturer license plates to any manufacturer, importer, or distributor licensed by the state of Florida upon payment of the license tax imposed by 320.08(12), Florida Statutes. Manufacturer license plates are valid for use on motor vehicles owned by the manufacturer, importer, or distributor to whom such plates are issued while the motor vehicles are in inventory and for sale, or while being operated for demonstration purposes or in connection with their business. Manufacturer license plates are not valid for use on for hire motor vehicles.</p>		
<i>Revision(s) to this procedure: Added new statute and letter i to Section IVA 1 describing how a heavy truck dealer may use dealer plates on heavy trucks. Added statute number to III, "Note."</i>		
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>  01/01/13	<b>REVISION DATE</b>  12/14/12	<b>PAGE #</b>  RS-26-01

**STATE OF FLORIDA**  
*Division of Motorist Services*

<b>PROCEDURE #</b>  RS-26	<b>SUBJECT:</b>  DEALER AND MANUFACTURER LICENSE PLATES
<p>Section 320.06(3)(a), Florida Statutes, requires the word "Dealer" to be printed at the bottom of dealer license plates and the word "Manufacturer" to be printed at the bottom of manufacturer license plates.</p> <p>II. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED:</p> <p>A. DEALERS:</p> <p>Dealer license plates may be issued to any dealer with a valid Florida dealer license.</p> <p><b>EXCEPTIONS:</b> A wholesale dealer who is issued a license with the letters "VW" (in the dealer license number) and those listed in IV, A, 3 of this procedure.</p> <p>Dealer license plates may be purchased in any county license plate agency when the following is submitted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Florida dealer's license number and PIN number.</li><li>2. Trailer dealers must show a copy of their business tax receipt or an affidavit from the dealer stating that the dealer license plate will only be used to demonstrate trailers for sale.</li></ol> <p>B. MANUFACTURERS:</p> <p>Manufacturer license plates may be issued to any manufacturer, importer, or distributor with a valid Florida manufacturer, importer, or distributor license.</p> <p>Manufacturer license plates may be purchased in any county license plate agency when the following is submitted:</p> <p>The Florida manufacturer, importer, or distributor's license number.</p> <p>III. FEES:</p> <p>Refer to form HSMV 83140, License Plate Rate Chart, for applicable fees.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> <u>Section 212.0601(1), Florida Statutes</u>, provides that each motor vehicle dealer or manufacturer shall pay an annual use tax for each dealer or manufacturer license plate purchased. Such tax shall be for the year for which the dealer or manufacturer license plate was purchased or renewed. Annual use tax, which is shown in the FRVIS list of fees charged as "State Sales Tax", is not prorated.</p> <p>IV. PROPER USE OF LICENSE PLATES:</p> <p>A. DEALER:</p> <p>Dealer license plates are assigned to a specific dealer, not a specific vehicle. Therefore, dealer license plates may be displayed on any vehicle in keeping with the following information.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Dealer Plates <b>MAY ONLY</b> be displayed on vehicles:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. operated in connection with a dealer's business.</li><li>b. while being used for demonstration purposes, with or without a dealer representative in the vehicle.</li></ol></li></ol>	
<b>PAGE #</b>	RS-26-02

**STATE OF FLORIDA**  
***Division of Motorist Services***

PROCEDURE #  RS-26	SUBJECT:  DEALER AND MANUFACTURER LICENSE PLATES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>c. in transit to or from a dealer's place of business.</li><li>d. temporarily loaned (without compensation) by a dealer to a customer while the customer's vehicle is being repaired by the dealer.</li><li>e. such as service trucks in the dealer's inventory when responding to calls where compensation is not a consideration. These vehicles cannot transport other vehicles including trailers.</li><li>f. owned by the dealer while in inventory and for sale.</li><li>g. including trailers for the sole purpose of demonstrating them for sale.</li><li>h. being transported to an auction and demonstrated in the auction area.</li><li><b><u>i. on heavy trucks while they are in inventory and for sale and being used only in the state for demonstration purposes for a period not to exceed 24 hours. The license plates must be validated on form HSMV 82084, Dealer Plates for Heavy Trucks for Demonstration Purposes, which must be retained in the vehicle being operated.</u></b></li></ul> <p>2. Dealer Plates <b>MAY NOT</b> be displayed on vehicles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. such as service or parts/supply vehicles or wreckers used for hauling property or making service calls for compensation.</li><li>b. such as parts or supply trucks calling on retail or wholesale trade. Such vehicles must display regular plates because of their public competitive nature.</li><li>c. or used by wholesale dealers with a "VW" dealer license.</li><li>d. or used by manufacturers with the license prefix of MR, MV, MD, or MI. A Registration Only is required.</li><li>e. such as wreckers, except for demonstration purposes.</li><li>f. such as car carriers even when the truck, trailer, and vehicles being hauled are in the dealer's inventory.</li></ul> <p>3. Licensed Mobile Home Dealers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. dealing exclusively in mobile homes are not authorized to obtain and use dealer plates.</li><li>b. who also deal in recreational vehicles may obtain dealer plates for use on recreational vehicles only.</li></ul> <p><b>B. MANUFACTURER:</b></p> <p>Manufacturer license plates are assigned to a specific manufacturer, importer, or distributor, not a specific vehicle. Therefore, manufacturer license plates may be displayed on any vehicle in keeping with the following information:</p> <p>1. Manufacturer license plates <b>MAY ONLY</b> be used on vehicles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. which are operated in connection with the manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's business.</li><li>b. being used for demonstration purposes, with or without a manufacturer, importer, or distributor representative in the vehicle.</li><li>c. owned by the manufacturer, importer, or distributor while in inventory and for sale.</li></ul>	
PAGE #	RS-26-03

**STATE OF FLORIDA**  
*Division of Motorist Services*

<b>PROCEDURE #</b>  RS-26	<b>SUBJECT:</b>  DEALER AND MANUFACTURER LICENSE PLATES				
<p style="text-align:center">d. used by manufacturers, importers, or distributors with the license prefixes of MV, MR, MD, or MI.</p> <p style="text-align:center">2. Manufacturer license plates <b>MAY NOT</b> be displayed on vehicles used for hire.</p> <p>V. <b>RENEWAL:</b></p> <p>Any county license plate agency may process renewals.</p> <p>A. <b>DEALERS:</b></p> <p>Dealer license plates are subject to the same registration and renewal period as the dealer licensing period. The renewal period is the last month of the registration period. The following are the registration periods for license plates issued to various categories of dealers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Franchised dealer (motor vehicle or motorcycle) license plates will use the registration expiration date of December 31.</li><li>2. Independent dealer (motor vehicle or motorcycle) license plates will use the registration expiration date of April 30.</li><li>3. Recreational vehicle dealer license plates will use the registration expiration date of September 30.</li><li>4. Dealer license plates purchased by trailer dealers use the registration expiration date of June 30.</li></ol> <p>B. <b>MANUFACTURERS:</b></p> <p>Manufacturer license plates will use the registration period of October through September. The expiration date is September 30. The renewal period is the last month of the registration period.</p> <p><b>LICENSE PLATE RANGES:</b></p> <table style="width:100%;"><tr><td style="width:40%;">Regular size</td><td>A00001-C99999</td></tr><tr><td>Motorcycle size</td><td>D00001-D99999</td></tr></table> <p>VI. <b>REPLACEMENT LICENSE PLATES:</b></p> <p>Any county license plate agency may process replacement license plates upon receiving the following documentation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Form HSMV 83146, Application for Replacement License Plate, Decal, or Parking Permit, accurately completed.</li><li>B. Fees: Refer to form HSMV 83140, License Plate Rate Chart, for applicable fees.</li><li>C. When an applicant reports a license plate or decal as stolen to a law enforcement agency and attests to doing so using form HSMV 83146, the applicant should not be charged a fee for the replacement license plate or decal.</li></ol>		Regular size	A00001-C99999	Motorcycle size	D00001-D99999
Regular size	A00001-C99999				
Motorcycle size	D00001-D99999				
<b>PAGE #</b>	RS-26-04				