

Florida

Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

Division of Motorist Services

PROCEDURE	SUBJECT:
RS-51	INHERENTLY LOW-EMISSION VEHICLE (ILEV) AND HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE (HOV) DECALS
DESCRIPTION AND USE:	
THIS PROCEDURE PROVIDES INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS TO ASSIST TAX COLLECTOR EMPLOYEES, LICENSE PLATE AGENCY EMPLOYEES, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES WITH INHERENTLY LOW-EMISSION VEHICLES (ILEV) AND ISSUING HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE LANE (HOV) DECALS.	
<p>I. PROVISIONS OF LAW:</p> <p>Section 316.0741(1), Florida Statutes, defines a "high occupancy vehicle lane" or "HOV lane" as lane of a public roadway designated for use by vehicles in which there is more than one occupant unless otherwise authorized by federal law.</p> <p>Section 316.0741(2), Florida Statutes, provides that the number of persons that must be in a vehicle to qualify for legal use of the HOV lane and the hours during which the lane will serve as an HOV lane, must be indicated on a traffic control device, if it is not designated as such on a full-time basis.</p> <p>Section 316.0741(3), Florida Statutes, states a vehicle may not be driven in an HOV lane if the vehicle is occupied by less than the number of occupants indicated by a traffic control device. A driver who violates this section shall be cited for a moving violation, punishable as provided in Chapter 318, Florida Statutes.</p> <p>Section 316.0741(4), Florida Statutes, provides for an inherently low-emission vehicle (ILEV) that is certified and labeled in accordance with federal regulations to be driven in a high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane at any time, regardless of its occupancy. In addition, upon the state's receipt of written notice from the proper federal regulatory agency authorizing such use, a vehicle defined as a hybrid vehicle under this section may be driven in an HOV lane at any time, regardless of its occupancy. The department shall issue a decal and registration certificate, to be renewed annually, reflecting the HOV lane designation on such vehicles authorized for such use. The department may charge a fee for a decal, not to exceed the costs of designing, producing, and distributing each decal, or \$5, whichever is less. The proceeds from sale of the decal shall be deposited in the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.</p>	
<i>Revision(s) to this procedure: Updated the Department link for ILEV information and added information regarding the Department of Environmental Protection Agency on page 2.</i>	
EFFECTIVE DATE	REVISION DATE
Immediately	08/09/13

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<p>Section 316.0741(5), Florida Statutes, defines the term "hybrid vehicle" as follows:</p> <p>A. Draws propulsion energy from onboard sources of stored energy which are both:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. An internal combustion or heat engine using combustible fuel.2. A rechargeable energy storage system. <p>AND</p> <p>B. In case of a passenger automobile or light truck:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Has received a certificate of conformity under the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. ss. 7401 et seq.2. Meets or exceeds the equivalent qualifying California standards for a low-emission vehicle. <p>II. GENERAL INFORMATION:</p> <p>In order to qualify for an HOV decal, the motor vehicle should be titled as an ILEV vehicle.</p> <p>The decal is to be placed on the lower right hand side of the rear window.</p> <p>When the vehicle is sold, the HOV decal MUST be removed.</p> <p>III. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED:</p> <p>The following must be submitted to the county license plate agency to apply for an original HOV decal:</p> <p>A. Form HSMV 83027, Application For HOV Decal, must be accurately completed. <u>Visit the website below for links to the:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Form HSMV 83027, Application for HOV decal.</u>• <u>The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) list for eligible low emissions and energy efficient (fuel economy) vehicles.</u>• <u>List of tax collector offices.</u> <p style="text-align:center">http://www.flhsmv.gov/dmv/hov.html</p> <p>NOTE: <u>The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles does not control the information published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.</u></p> <p style="text-align:center"><u>Therefore, if you are unable to find the necessary information regarding your Inherently Low Emission Vehicle (ILEV) on this list, you should contact the dealer or the manufacturer for the necessary supporting documentation.</u></p> <p>B. The fees are listed on the form HSMV 83027, Application For HOV Decal.</p> <p>C. A copy of the current registration certificate.</p> <p>IV. RENEWALS OF HOV DECALS:</p> <p>Renewals may be processed through the county license plate agency.</p>	
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V. TRANSFERS:

When a customer transfers a license plate to a newly acquired vehicle, their current HOV decal does not transfer with the license plate to the new vehicle. However, the customer may apply for a new decal (original) for the current vehicle if it qualifies for HOV decal.

VI. EXPIRATION OF HOV DECALS:

A HOV decal will have the same expiration date as the vehicle's existing license plate registration.

VII. REPLACEMENT HOV DECAL:

Applications for replacement HOV decals may be processed by the county license plate agency.

FEES AND DOCUMENTATION:

1. Form HSMV 83146, Application For Replacement License Plate, Validation Decal or Parking Permit, accurately completed.
2. The fees are the same as an original decal. For fee information, refer to form HSMV 83027, Application For HOV Decal.

NOTE: When the applicant certifies on HSMV form 83146 that he/she reported the HOV decal as stolen to a law enforcement agency, no fee is charged for a replacement HOV decal.

3. A copy of the current registration certificate.

VIII. LOST-IN-TRANSIT:

Application for replacement of a "Lost-In-Transit" HOV decal may be processed in any county license plate agency. Verification may be made in FRVIS 2000 to insure that the HOV decal was previously processed and mailed to the customer. If a determination cannot be made, it will be necessary to contact the county that processed and mailed the HOV decal. These replacements may be issued at no charge when applied for within 180 days of the date issued. The following document must be submitted:

Form HSMV 83146, Application For Replacement License Plate, Validation Decal or Parking Permit, accurately completed.