

Florida

Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

Division of Motorist Services

PROCEDURE	SUBJECT:
RS-49	REGISTRATION EXEMPTION FOR PORT AND AIRPORT VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT
DESCRIPTION AND USE:	
THIS PROCEDURE IS PROVIDED TO ASSIST TAX COLLECTOR EMPLOYEES, LICENSE PLATE AGENCY EMPLOYEES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES IN PROVIDING INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXEMPTING PORT AND AIRPORT VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT FROM THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS.	
<p>I. PROVISIONS OF LAW:</p> <p>Section 320.525, Florida Statutes, provides for the exemption of port vehicles and equipment from the requirement of registration of motor vehicles, the payment of license taxes, and the display of license plates when operated or used within the port facility of any deepwater port of this state for the purpose of transporting cargo, containers, or other equipment.</p> <p>Section 320.535, Florida Statutes, provides for the exemption of airport fuel trucks and equipment from the requirement of registration of motor vehicles, the payment of license taxes, and the display of license plates when operated or used within the airport facility of any public-use airport of this state.</p> <p>II. DEFINITIONS:</p> <p>A. “Port vehicles and equipment” are defined in Section 320.525(1), Florida Statutes, as trucks, tractors, trailers, truck cranes, top loaders, fork lifts, hostling tractors, chassis, or other vehicles or equipment used for transporting cargo, containers, or other equipment.</p> <p>B. Port facilities are defined in section 403.021(9)(b), Florida Statutes, as port waters, spoil disposal sites, port harbors, navigation channels, turning basins, and harbor berths used for deepwater commercial navigation in the ports of Jacksonville, Tampa; Port Everglades, Miami, Port Canaveral, Ft. Pierce, Palm Beach, Port Manatee, Port St. Joe, Panama City, St. Petersburg and Pensacola.</p> <p>C. Airport fuel trucks and equipment means trucks, trailers, containers, and other vehicles or equipment used for transporting aviation fuel.</p>	
Revision(s) to this procedure: Added a third exemption requirement, III., A., 3., for port vehicles and equipment on page 2.	
EFFECTIVE DATE	REVISION DATE
07/01/14	06/16/14

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III. EXEMPTION REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Port vehicles and equipment are exempt from the requirement of registration of motor vehicles, the display of license plates and the payment of license taxes as required in Section 320.08, Florida Statutes, when such vehicles are being used to transport cargo, containers, or other equipment:
1. From wharves to storage areas or terminals and return to wharves within the port;
 2. From such storage areas or terminals to other storage areas or terminals within the port;
- and
3. **On public roads connecting port facilities of a single deepwater port, as listed in s. 403.021(9)(b), which are designated as port district roads for the purpose of transporting cargo, containers, and other equipment. The Department of Transportation shall designate port district roads with appropriate signage.**
- B. Airport fuel trucks and equipment are exempt from the requirement of registration of motor vehicles, the payment of license taxes and the display of license plates in the following situations:
1. When the airport facility is a public-use airport of this state.
 2. When used on the roads of this state that are within the airport facility.

Incidental operation of port vehicles or equipment and airport fuel trucks and equipment on the roads of this state within the port facility of any deepwater port of this state, or within the airport facility, for purposes as described above, shall not remove vehicles from the registration exemption.