Florida
Department of Highway Safety
and Motor Vehicles
Division of Motorist Services

PROCEDURE
VSRS-07

SUBJECT:
COUNTY REGISTRATION FEE

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 WHO HAVE OPTED TO CHARGE THE COUNTY REGISTRATION FEE.

I. PROVISIONS OF LAW:

Section 328.66, Florida Statutes, provides that any county may impose an annual registration fee on vessels registered, operated, used, or stored on the water of this state within its jurisdiction. The fee shall be 50 percent of the applicable state registration fee. However, the first $1 of every registration imposed under this subsection shall be remitted to the state for deposit in the Save the Manatee Trust Fund within the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and used as specified in s. 379.2431(4). All other monies received from the fee shall be expended for the patrol, regulation, and maintenance of the lakes, rivers, and waters and for other boating-related activities of the municipality or county.

II. GENERAL INFORMATION:

A county that elects to impose an annual vessel registration fee must notify the department of its intent, at least 30 calendar days prior to the activation of the fee. This notification must include the fee implementation date and the name of the county tax collector responsible for collecting the fee. This notification should be sent to the attention of the Director of the Division of Motorist Services.

III. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

The county tax collector authorized to impose the county registration fee shall remit to the department all monies collected for the preservation of manatees pursuant to section 328.66, Florida Statutes.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION:

The submission of the monies collected for the preservation of the manatee shall be a part of the state’s vessel title and registration process.

DIVISION DIRECTOR
07/01/97
01/11/10
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