



# Florida Highway Patrol

## Bureau of Criminal Investigations & Intelligence



### Officer Safety Bulletin – Florida Temporary Tags

|            |         |             |                  |           |           |
|------------|---------|-------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Date:      | 6/20/18 | Focus Area: | Personnel Safety | Category: | General   |
| Product #: | 18-060  | Source:     | Reliable         | Validity: | Confirmed |

As a result of multiple long-term investigations, it was discovered that Florida temporary tags are being utilized for criminal purposes and to evade law enforcement. The identified criminal activity includes, but is not limited to, the concealment of stolen vehicles, narcotics trafficking, drive-by shootings, hit and runs, robberies, insurance fraud, and identity theft. The use of a temporary tag allows the individual and vehicle to move undetected. Additionally, multiple reports from law enforcement agencies nationwide have been received regarding the fraudulent use of Florida temporary tags on cloned/stolen vehicles. BCII and the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) formed a work group to address the problem.

It is important for law enforcement to take extra precautions when encountering vehicles with indicators of criminal activity and bearing a temporary tag. The following are recommended steps to ensure officer safety:

- Run the tag and VIN through FCIC/NCIC.
- Confirm the public VIN and the Federal door decals (especially on newer model vehicles).
- Verify that the publicly displayed VIN matches the VIN printed on the temporary tag.
- If no paperwork is present, then consider towing the vehicle in order to confirm the vehicle's identity.
- If the vehicle is being operated by someone other than the registrant, further investigation is recommended.
- In cases where the vehicle's identity is in question, a check of the vehicle's confidential VIN may be needed.



*Florida Print on Demand Temporary Tag*



*Florida Pre-Printed Temporary Tag*

The DHSMV is enhancing information returned during FCIC tag inquiries. DHSMV has identified scenarios in which certain tag inquiries were returning the message "No Record Found" or no vehicle information was being returned. There are still scenarios in which "No Record Found" may still be returned. This may indicate the need for further investigation. **The scheduled implementation date is August 31, 2018.** Included are scenarios in which there will be enhanced information provided.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this bulletin, please contact the FHP Bureau of Criminal Investigations & Intelligence at [paulsharp@flhsmv.gov](mailto:paulsharp@flhsmv.gov) or [aliciareitter@flhsmv.gov](mailto:aliciareitter@flhsmv.gov).

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## DHSMV Enhanced Tag Inquiry Scenarios

### Scenario 1) When a tag issuance is voided, it is no longer valid.

Current: "No Record Found."

Enhancement: FCIC will now return a message stating that the tag was voided and the name of the last recorded issuing entity (ie. Dealer/Tax Collector Service Center).

Message:

VOIDED/INVALID TAG. THE LAST RECORDED ISSUING ENTITY WAS:

DEALER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

VOIDED/INVALID TAG. THE LAST RECORDED ISSUING ENTITY WAS:

DEALER: CVR TEST DEALERSHIP

ADDRESS: 940 N FEDERAL HWY, POMPAÑO BEACH, FL, 33062

### Scenario 2) A tag has been detached from a vehicle and no other tag has been assigned to the vehicle.

Current: Registration information provided, but no vehicle information.

Enhancement: FCIC will now return the following message in addition to the registration information.

Message:

TAG \_\_\_\_ PREVIOUSLY ASSIGNED TO VIN \_\_\_\_\_

DHSMV RECORD --  
YB174C

00

COLOR: UNKNOWN

CLASS: 056 GVW: 000000

COUNTY RES:

DOB: / / SEX: DECAL/YR: /0 DECAL EXP:12/31/99 USE: N/A

TAG YB174C PREVIOUSLY ASSIGNED TO VIN 'WM13060'

#### REGISTRANT(S) INFORMATION

REGISTRANT 1: SEA LAND EQUIPMENT INC

5504 WILLIAM MILLS ST

JAX

FL

32226-3093

SEX: DOB: NONE

DL#1: NO FL DL

REGISTRANT 2:

SEX: DOB: / /

NO R2

#### INSURANCE INFORMATION

INSURANCE INFORMATION NOT ON FILE

**Scenario 3) A tag has been detached from a vehicle and another tag has been assigned to the vehicle.**

Current: Registration information provided, but no vehicle information.

Enhancement: FCIC will now return the following message in addition to the registration information.

Message:

TAG \_\_ \_\_ PREVIOUSLY ASSIGNED TO VIN \_\_ \_\_

TAG \_\_ \_\_ CURRENTLY ASSIGNED TO VIN \_\_ \_\_

|                                               |      |                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------------------|
| DHSMV RECORD -                                |      | 00                                               |
| 489MAK                                        |      | COLOR: UNKNOWN                                   |
|                                               |      | CLASS: 001 GVW: 000000                           |
|                                               |      | COUNTY RES:                                      |
| DOB: / /                                      | SEX: | DECAL/YR: 00238404/6 DECAL EXP:06/28/16 USE: N/A |
| TAG 489MAK PREVIOUSLY ASSIGNED TO VIN '29267' |      |                                                  |
| TAG AAC6967 CURRENTLY ASSIGNED TO VIN '29267' |      |                                                  |
| REGISTRANT(S) INFORMATION                     |      |                                                  |
| REGISTRANT 1: KIMBERLY                        | S    | SCHWERTMAN                                       |
| 1137 NORTHLANE                                |      | SEX: F DOB: 06/28/69                             |
| ENGLEWOOD                                     | FL   | DL#1: S635517697280                              |
| REGISTRANT 2:                                 |      | SEX: DOB: / /                                    |
|                                               |      | NO R2                                            |

Law enforcement officers can run the replacement tag number and compare information. Currently, these inquiries are returning the registration and owner information but not the vehicle information because the record has been detached.

**Scenario 4) A pre-printed temporary tag that has been assigned to a dealer is displayed on a vehicle, but the dealer has not yet entered vehicle or registrant information into the system.**

Current: "No Record Found."

Enhancement: FCIC will now return a message stating that the tag has been distributed to a dealer, as well as the name and address of the dealer. The LEO can compare the returned dealer information with the proof of purchase information the driver presents.

Message:

NO REGISTRATION INFORMATION ON FILE. PRE-PRINTED TAG HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO: \_\_\_\_\_

DEALER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

**Scenario 5) A tag that has been assigned to a dealer is displayed on a vehicle, but the dealer has not yet entered vehicle or registrant information into the system.**

Current: "No Record Found."

Enhancement: FCIC will now return a message stating that the tag has been distributed to a dealer, as well as the name and address of the dealer.

Message:

NO REGISTRATION INFORMATION ON FILE. TAG HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO: \_\_\_\_\_

DEALER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Law enforcement officers can compare the returned dealer information with the proof of purchase information provided by the driver.

**Scenario 6) A tag that has been assigned to a tax collector is displayed on a vehicle, but the tax collector has not yet entered vehicle or registrant information into the system.**

Current: "No Record Found."

Enhancement: FCIC will now return a message stating that the tag has been distributed to a tax collector, as well as the name and address of the tax collector.

Message:

NO REGISTRATION INFORMATION ON FILE. TAG HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO: \_\_\_\_\_

TAX COLLECTOR SERVICE CENTER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_