



June 29, 2010

Temporary License Plate Transfer FAQ

Effective July 1, 2010 Florida law requires dealerships to submit license plate transfer information to the department electronically at the time of sale and transfer of the metal license plate. Below is an example of how the electronic process will work:

A customer purchases a vehicle from a dealer and has a metal license plate to transfer to their new vehicle. The dealer uses the ETR (Electronic Temporary Registration) system to enter the individual's personal and vehicle information. This information is verified against the department's motor vehicle database and if everything is in order, it allows the temporary transfer of the registration to the new vehicle. The dealer may then move the customer's metal license plate to the customer's new vehicle. The customer will leave the dealership with a registration for the temporary transfer and the permanent metal license plate on the rear of the vehicle.

Q – Is a dealer required to use the electronic temporary transfer process?

A – The intent of the law is to ensure that the customer always drives off the lot with a plate on the vehicle that is updated in our database. If a metal plate is being placed on the newly acquired vehicle, then the dealer must use the electronic temporary transfer process. If the metal plate is not physically displayed on the newly acquired vehicle or the temporary transfer is not authorized by the system, a print on demand plate can be issued. A third option would be to process the permanent registration transfer at the tax collector's office.

Q – What does a dealer that does not use an ETR or EFS vendor do?

A – The dealer must go to the county tax collector office for the electronic temporary transfer, print on demand temp plate, or permanent registration transfer.

Q – Is DHSMV form 83033 -Notification of Transfer still required with the electronic temporary transfer?

A – No, a registration is printed with the electronic temporary transfer.

Q – Does the electronic temporary transfer change normal transfer process?

A – No, the documentation, fees, and timeframe required to submit for transfer have not changed.

Q – Does the electronic temporary transfer expire?

A – The temporary transfer only expires when the registration itself expires. Additionally, the license plate cannot be renewed until the temporary transfer is converted to a permanent transfer.

Q – What happens if a deal falls through and the vehicle is returned?

A – The dealer is required to restore the registration back to the original vehicle. This can be done by the dealer through the ETR system.