

REGISTRATION ISSUES
DMV TO ISSUE NEW REGISTRATION STICKERS - ANNOUNCEMENT
BY GOVERNOR RELL

BILL SEYMOUR: Welcome to DMV Infocast, an audio production of the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles. This is Bill Seymour, Infocast editor.

Governor M. Jody Rell today advised Connecticut motorists that they will soon receive new vehicle registration stickers that will be placed inside the windshield, rather than on the rear license plate, in an effort to thwart thieves who often target those stickers and sell them. "The theft of registration stickers has been a particularly challenging law enforcement issue, especially in our cities," Governor Rell said. "This simple common sense change will go a long way toward resolving the problem," she added. Because the stickers are not easily removed from license plates, thieves often cut off the corner of the plate with the sticker still attached and then sell them to unscrupulous car dealers and other individuals.

Beginning with vehicle registration renewal notices that the Department of Motor Vehicles will send in late July, customers will be instructed to put a new and larger sticker in the lower driver's side corner of the windshield. These renewal notices will be mailed for registrations that expire September 1 and later. Motorists will receive new stickers when either renewing a registration or buying a car with a new registration. The new stickers will be phased in over the next two years.

"The new windshield sticker, like those used in many other states, will help put a stop to the growing problem of sticker and plate theft around Connecticut, particularly in our large cities," the Governor said. "It is a long-term solution that helps both motorists and the police," she added. "I want to praise the Connecticut Police Chief's Association," the Governor said, "the Department of Motor Vehicles, and the state police for their hard work on a committee that proposed this solution."

Last July, Governor Rell asked the Department Motor Vehicles Commissioner Ralph J. Carpenter to convene representatives of local law enforcement agencies, the state

police, and the DMV to find a new and creative solution to this long-standing problem. In the last three years, nearly 26,000 plates have been reported stolen from the State of Connecticut. Commissioner Carpenter said that for many years the DMV has wrestled with this issue, and it now has a solution to help dramatically reduce these steps that hinder police work and cause inconveniences for vehicle owners. By placing the sticker inside the motor vehicle, vandals will no longer have the motive to steal the license plate, or cut off the registration renewal sticker on the plate. The committee believes this was the best solution to a growing problem which has caused inconvenience to many law abiding motorists.

Under the new program, the new registration is larger and will change color each year. It will partially destruct upon removal to prevent fraudulent use. DMV plans to mail windshield stickers starting July 21st with all paid registration renewals. After September 1, the DMV and licensed car dealers will issue the windshield stickers with new registration.

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