

Memorandum

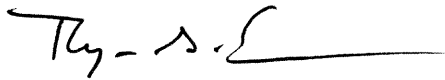


DATE: September 19, 2014

TO: Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee: Sheffie Kadane (Chair), Adam Medrano (Vice Chair), Dwaine Caraway, Jennifer S. Gates, Sandy Greyson, Scott Griggs

SUBJECT: **Electronic Tags (E-Tags) and Temporary License Plate (Paper tags) Overview**

On Monday, September 22, 2014, you will be briefed on Electronic Tags (E-Tags) and Temporary License Plate (Paper tags) Overview. The briefing materials are attached for your review.



Ryan S. Evans
First Assistant City Manager

Attachment

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
Warren M. S. Ernst, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Daniel E. Solis, Administrative Judge
Jill A. Jordan, P. E., Assistant City Manager
Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager

Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Charles M. Cato, Interim Assistant City Manager
Theresa O'Donnell, Interim Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Sana Syed, Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council



Electronic Tags (E-Tags) and Temporary License Plate (Paper Tags) Overview

Public Safety Committee

September 22, 2014



Purpose of Presentation

- The purpose of this presentation is to give an overview of use of Paper Dealer E-Tags as well as methods for police officers to enforce use and misuse of E-Tags

Obsolete Paper Tag

0									0
				TEXAS BUYER					
				UNTITLED VEHICLE					
				0098765					
				DEALER MUST APPLY FOR TITLE & REGISTRATION OF VEHICLE WITHIN 20 WORKING DAYS FROM THE DATE SOLD					
				DATE SOLD: _____					
				BUYERS NAME _____					
				VIN _____					
				SOLD BY: JOHN DOE MOTORS					
				P12345 - AUSTIN					
0									0

Discontinued in 2009

History of Obsolete Paper Tag

- Easily counterfeited
- No expiration date
- Not vehicle specific
- Could be passed around and used for criminal activity
- Not easily traceable
- New E-Tags make these activities more difficult
- E-Tags began in June 2009

Texas Transportation Code

- Violation of Chapter 503
 - Unlicensed Sales Motor Vehicles TRC 503.021
 - misuse of Temporary Tags – TRC 503.038 (a) 12
 - Fine of \$50 to \$5,000
 - E- Tags are Temporary Tags generated by the State of Texas for licensed dealers
 - E-Tags are generated through the internet
 - E- Tags are good for 60 days

Example of E- Tag



E-Tag Meanings

- License number leads officers to the car VIN number and owner when it is run on the officers computer
- The car year and make on the license plate should match the car
- The expiration date is on the E-Tag

Buyers Receipt

- A buyers receipt must be in the vehicle or ready to display to a law enforcement officer
- Even if the E-tag is valid, failure to display or provide the buyers receipt is a violation under state law
- A violation is a Class B penalty

BUYER'S TAG RECEIPT – BUYER'S COPY

THIS IS THE BUYER'S TAG NUMBER: **42F8851**

THIS IS THE EXPIRATION DATE: 7-18-2008

DATE OF SALE: 6-25-2008

Issue Date	VIN	Year	Make	Color	Model	Body Style
6-25-2008	VK157K031T3238323	2004	Volkswagen	Blue	Beetle	2-Dr Sedan
Issuing Dealer		Dealer Number				
ABC Auto Sales		P 12345				
Owner #1 Name		Owner #1 Street Address				

Austin, Texas 78704
Address

**Buyer keeps in vehicle until
metal plates arrive**

**BUYER is required to keep this receipt in the vehicle until
vehicle is registered and metal plates are placed on the vehicle.**

BUYER'S COPY

This is an example of what the Dealer Tag-Assigned to Vehicle looks like when completed.

TEXAS DEALER
VEHICLE OWNED BY JOHN DOE AUTO SALES

THIS VEHICLE TEMPORARILY REGISTERED WITH STATE UNDER TAG #

45V7650

EXPIRES 06-15-2007

2000 FORD

VIN 1FTNE2429YHA13373

**FOR INTRANSIT, ROAD TESTING, DEMONSTRATION AND USE
BY CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS**

Dealers Temporary Tags

- A dealer may issue a temporary tag on an unregistered vehicle for use by the dealer or the dealer's employees only to:
 - Demonstrate to a prospective buyer the vehicle for sale purposes only
 - For transport from one of the dealer's places of business to another
 - For transport from the dealer's place of business to a place the vehicle is to be serviced

Probable Cause For Traffic Stops

- Failure to properly display e-tags
- Tag must be securely attached
- Tag must be visible while vehicle is in motion
- Tag must be covered in weatherproof material

Texas Motor Vehicle Transfer Notification Form VTR-346

- Form used to protect customer from being charged with unpaid parking or toll fines
- Upon submittal, a note will be placed on the registration return that indicates the vehicle has been transferred
- Form may be obtained from www.dmv.state.tx.us

Summary

- Paper Dealer E-Tags give officers needed information to enforce violations and verify ownership
- Most violations are enforced with a Class C citation
- Since January 2013, we have filed 58 Class B cases for these violations
- In 2014 we have confiscated E-Tags from one dealer due to violations

Summary Continued

- Auto Theft detectives give a quarterly one day class at the Police Academy that teaches them when and how to enforce E-Tag violations

QUESTIONS?