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GOVERNOR



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December 17, 2012

Dear Director:

On December 10, the Missouri Department of Revenue began converting its equipment and issuing new-style Missouri driver licenses, nondriver identification cards, and temporary licenses. The new issuance process and design enhance security, and help reduce the risks of identity theft and other types of fraud.

We began with our central office in Jefferson City and are converting the license offices around the state at the rate of about 15 offices per week. We anticipate completion of the rollout in April 2013. Because people may soon start presenting these new licenses and IDs to your departments, whether to document their driving privilege, or as proof of identification or age, the Department is reaching out to provide you detailed information about the issuance process and the new features of these documents. Over all, you will see three major changes. (For simplicity, we will refer to driver licenses and nondriver identification cards as "licenses" below.)

First, people who are issued the new-style license will initially receive a temporary license, printed on special 8 ½" x 11" paper, to use while the permanent one is being produced. The temporary license has the same identifying information and photo that will be on the permanent license, and may be used like a regular license until the permanent one is received. On the temporary license, you will see the state seal and the word "TEMPORARY" printed in temperature-sensitive ink that fades with exposure to warmth. If you rub your hand on the paper, the blue ink fades to white and then returns to blue as the ink cools. The temporary license will also include an expiration date. They may also keep their old license, which will be punched "VOID."

Second, the new, permanent license will have security features such as a laser perforation (holding the license up to a light will reveal the state abbreviation "MO") and special printing that reacts to a black light. The background will be different from the old license. The person's picture will be in a new spot. There will be color-coded headers to indicate the type of license (commercial, driver, intermediate, instruction, nondriver). But some things—such as the organ donor and veteran symbols—remain the same on the new license.

Third, the permanent license for persons who are under 21 will be produced in a vertical format. But their licenses will contain all the same information and security features as those issued to persons 21 and over.

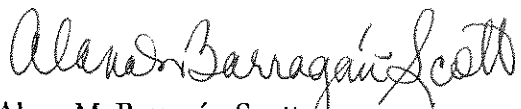
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Of course, you will continue to see unexpired licenses in the old format. As with prior license design changes, people are not required to get a new license until their old one expires—unexpired, old-format licenses will remain valid. But you will see more and more of the new-format licenses in the next several years.

As always, if you suspect that a person is presenting a counterfeit Missouri license, you should contact law enforcement, or the Department of Revenue's Compliance and Investigation Bureau at 573-526-5122.

A brochure with pictures of the new license and a detailed list of features is attached to this letter. For more information, visit the Department's web site at dor.mo.gov/drivers. And please do not hesitate to contact the Department with any questions about the new license or if we may be of any assistance.

Sincerely,


Alana M. Barragán-Scott

Attachment