



Texas Department of Transportation

VEHICLE TITLES AND REGISTRATION DIVISION • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78779-0001 • (512) 485-7611

August 17, 2001

Registration and Title Bulletin # 109-01

TO: All County Tax Assessor-Collectors

SUBJECT: Elimination of "Duplicate Original" Certificates of Title (HB 642)

PURPOSE

To provide information regarding the provisions of House Bill 642, enacted by the 77th Texas Legislature, 2001. A copy of HB 642 is attached for your reference (Attachment A). These provisions become effective September 1, 2001.

DETAILS

HB 642 eliminates the requirement of issuing a non-negotiable "Duplicate Original" (DO) certificate of title when a lien is recorded on a Texas Certificate of Title. It also eliminates the "Original" designation on the negotiable Texas Certificate of Title and allows the department to provide for the issuance of a "receipt" for Registration Purposes Only (RPO) by rule. Beginning September 1, 2001, VTR will discontinue printing non-negotiable certificates of title. This includes "Duplicate Original" certificates of title issued when a lien is recorded on a Texas Certificate of Title, non-negotiable RPO titles, and Certified Copies of Duplicate Original Certificates of Title (CCDO). The owner's title receipt for a negotiable certificate of title will serve as proof of registration, if applicable, and as evidence of title. In the case of an RPO, the applicant's registration receipt will serve as their evidence of title for registration purposes only. However, a title receipt or registration receipt may not be used to transfer any interest or ownership in a motor vehicle or to establish a lien.

Duplicate Original (DO) Titles

A vehicle owner who finances a vehicle and has a lien recorded on the certificate of title will no longer receive a non-negotiable title upon issuance of the negotiable certificate of title. The Title Application Receipt issued at the time of application will serve as the owner's proof of registration and as evidence that an application for certificate of title was filed to record them as the registered owner. The negotiable certificate of title will continue to be mailed to the first lienholder upon issuance.

Registration Purposes Only (non-negotiable) Certificates of Title

An RPO applicant will no longer be issued a non-negotiable "Registration Purposes Only" certificate of title. The application receipt issued at the time of filing the RPO application will serve as the applicant's registration receipt and as evidence of title to the vehicle for registration purposes only.

Certified Copies of Duplicate Original Certificates of Title (CCDO)

In lieu of a CCDO, an owner who has lost a non-negotiable certificate of title issued prior to September 1, 2001, or the application receipt issued on or after September 1, 2001, may request a Vehicle Inquiry Receipt, Duplicate License Receipt, or Certified Title and Registration Verification. A properly completed request and payment of the appropriate fee will be required. However, if a properly completed application for a CCDO is received on or after September 1, 2001, a "printout" (Vehicle Inquiry Receipt or title and registration verification) will be returned to the applicant with a brief explanation that the department no longer issues CCDOs. The "printout" will be provided in lieu of the CCDO and will serve as their evidence of title and/or registration in Texas, whichever applies.

VTR ACTIONS

VTR is in the process of revising the following forms, which will be distributed to your offices when available:

- Form 34, Application for Certified Copy of Texas Certificate of Title, is being revised to eliminate the option to apply for a Certified Copy of the Duplicate Original (CCDO).
- Forms VTR-272, Request to Issue Non-negotiable Certificate of Title (Registration Purposes Only); Form VTR-272-A, Request to Issue Non-negotiable Certificate of Title for a Vehicle Located Out-of-state (Registration Purposes Only); and Form VTR-274, Request for Non-negotiable Title for Registration Purposes Only, are being revised to remove all references to issuance of a "non-negotiable title." The forms will advise RPO applicants that a negotiable title will not be issued and the receipt will serve as their registration receipt and proof of RPO application.

The Vehicle Registration and Title Manuals will be revised to address these changes and the revised manual pages will be distributed at a later date. The Administrative Rules (Title 43, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 17) will also be amended to address the elimination of Duplicate Original certificates of title, to eliminate references to "Original" certificates of title, and the process for RPO applications.

COUNTY ACTIONS

At a later date, programming modifications will be made to include the printing of applicable advisory statements on the application receipts to advise customers that the receipt is their proof of registration and/or application for title, or Registration Purposes Only, whichever applies.

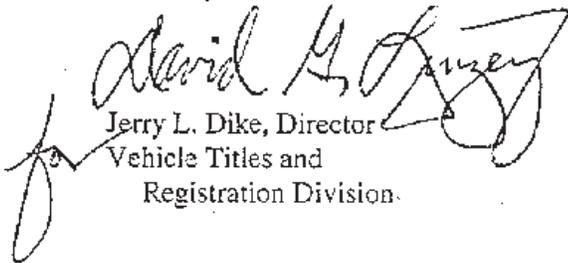
In the interim, your offices will be provided advisory stickers that are to be affixed only to Title Application Receipts issued when an application for a negotiable Texas Certificate of Title indicates a lien. An example of a receipt showing placement of the advisory sticker is attached for your reference (Attachment B). The advisory stickers are currently being distributed to your offices. Please begin affixing the stickers to affected receipts immediately upon receipt in order to advise applicants with liens that they will not receive a non-negotiable certificate of title. The advisory stickers will not be affixed to receipts issued for RPO applications.

Counties with dealers using the DTA system should advise those dealers of these changes and provide them with sufficient advisory stickers for placement on the application receipts they issue.

VTR CONTACTS

If you have any questions concerning this bulletin, please contact your local Vehicle Titles and Registration Division Regional Office or the Customer Help Desk at (512) 465-7611. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jerry L. Dike, Director
Vehicle Titles and
Registration Division.

JLD:jsk

Attachments

cc: Texas Department of Public Safety
Financial Industry Partners
Insurance Partners
Dealer Associations
VTR Administration
TxDOT Public Information Office
All TxDOT District Engineers, Attn: Public Information Officers