Motorists May Renew Tags Online

(Special to The Oxford Independent)

Calhoun County Commissioner of Licenses Barry Robertson recently announced that Calhoun County citizens may now renew their motor vehicle registration online by credit card. Car tag renewals are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, through the Commissioner of Licenses web site at calhouncountyal.org.

Calhoun County is only the seventh county in the state to administer an online tag renewal site. Thus far over 3,300 tag renewals have been processed using the Internet service. The online program went into effect October 1, 2003. Robertson states that online purchasing is just one way the Commissioner of Licenses office can continue to provide a more efficient service to the citizens of Calhoun County. The online renewal is not only convenient to the customer but also simple. It only takes a few minutes and can be done anywhere a person has access to the Internet. The cost of the service is only a $3.50 convenience charge and a $2.00 mail fee per transaction. This is in addition to any regular tag and taxes. Visa and MasterCard are accepted.

Also available online is basic information and frequently asked questions related to automobile registration and titling, hunting and fishing licenses, boat registration, manufactured homes, business and privilege license, as well as drivers licenses. Visitors can also find commonly requested forms such as replacement title applications, power of attorney, bill of sale and lifetime hunting/fishing license.

The County Directory section includes a link which contains phone numbers and addresses of all federal, state, county and municipal offices located in Calhoun County. A map is also provided in the section so a visitor can find directions for the licensing offices in Piedmont and Jacksonville. Other links found on the site are the State of Alabama Department of Revenue, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Alabama Department of Public Safety.

“The overall goal of the site is to put people in touch with the Commissioner of Licenses office for obtaining any information they may need,” says Robertson.
Final approval has been given to the new Race Plates specialty license plates sponsored by the International Motorsports Hall of Fame, and they are now on sale at DMV offices state-wide. This multi-choice series of tags is the largest such project in the history of the DMV. Twenty different plates are available, and each may be personalized.

Heading the available plates are Dale Earnhardt Sr. and Jr., Jeff Gordon, Tony Stewart, Jimmie Johnson, Ryan Newman, Michael Waltrip, Mark Martin, Rusty Wallace, Dale Jarrett and Bill Elliott. In all there are 18 active drivers, plus Earnhardt Sr. and a special Alabama Gang plate available only in Alabama. For a complete listing and picture of all 20 plates, go to www.motorsportshalloffame.com.

How Long To Register?

When purchasing or leasing a new or used vehicle, the new owner must register the vehicle within twenty (20) calendar days at the Commissioner of Licenses office. If the vehicle is acquired from a licensed Alabama dealer, then the dealer may apply for your Alabama certificate of title. But it is the owner's responsibility to register the vehicle in his home county within twenty (20) calendar days.

Commercial vehicles owned by firms, corporations, or associations will be registered in the county where the vehicle is based.

Show Your Support

Helping Schools standard and motorcycle tags can now be personalized with a maximum of (6) six alphanumeric characters. Nearly 75% of the purchase price goes directly to the public school of your choice. Show your support. The additional $15.00 is tax deductible.

Help support JSU.

Purchase your standard or personalized JSU tag. Over 97% of the $50.00 additional fee goes directly to JSU. And is tax deductible.

A New Look for Alabama’s Driver License

In the Winter of 2005, Alabama will begin issuing newly designed driver licenses and identification cards. Technological advances make these the most secure cards Alabama has ever issued. This technology includes a 2-D barcode, magnetic stripe, digitized portrait image, signature and various security features. Alabama's new card design includes the state capital and state seal.

Greater Security and Benefits

The portrait and signature are both digital and stored in a permanent database for easy retrieval in order to verify identification.

The “Under 18/21” driver licenses and identification cards are now issued in a new vertical format that is immediately recognizable. Under 18/21 cards display the words “UNDER 18 UNTIL” and/or “UNDER 21 UNTIL” followed by the date the cardholder will turn 18 or 21 in bold red text. This text is positioned vertically next to the portrait.

Features of New License