

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

NOTICE

April 25, 2019

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TO: All Department Personnel

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: ENFORCEMENT OF CALIFORNIA TEMPORARY LICENSE PLATES (PAPER PLATES)

Assembly Bill 516, effective January 1, 2019, significantly changed the temporary identification of vehicles after purchase. Historically, the State of California has issued a "Purchaser's Temporary Identification Card" to be placed either on the lower right corner of the rear windshield or the lower right corner of the front windshield. The temporary card was valid until the license plates were received by the purchaser.

Now, vehicles sold by California-licensed dealers will be required to equip their vehicles with a Temporary License Plate (TLP) that displays: the TLP number, report of sale number, Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), vehicle year and make, and an expiration date that is 90 days after the date of sale. Temporary license plates will also include a Quick Response (QR) Code with information embedded into the plate to make them more difficult to counterfeit. Legitimate TLPs are also linked to a Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) database that identifies the buyer and contains a description of the vehicle, and TLPs may be queried through the California Law Enforcement Telecommunication System (CLETS).

When a vehicle is observed without a TLP or permanent license plates, officers have the authority to conduct a traffic stop for further investigation. Vehicles failing to display TLPs within 90 days of purchase may be cited for Section 5201(a) of the California Vehicle Code (CVC); vehicles failing to display permanent plates after 90 days may be cited for 5200(a) CVC.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice, please contact the Evaluation and Administration Section, Office of Operations, at (213) 486-6050.



MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police

Attachment

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California Temporary License Plate
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