



Department of
the Secretary of State

Bureau of Motor Vehicles

Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State

Catherine Curtis
Deputy Secretary of State

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Director of Vehicle Services

To: All Municipalities & BMV Branch Offices
From: Wayne Russell, Section Manager – Dealer & Agent Services
Date: October 20, 2010
Subject: New Maine IRP Registration Plates in 2011

Effective with the January 2011 renewals, all Maine IRP registrants will be issued new IRP plates to replace existing IRP plates. The new Maine IRP plates will be blue on white. Plates will be replaced upon renewal, and will be phased in over the calendar year 2011. The new plates will continue in the 900 number series, but in general, registrants will receive new numbers.

Maine joined the IRP in 1993, and has never had a general re-issue of IRP plates. Many plates have exceeded their useful life, and are worn or damaged, and have lost their safety reflectivity. In addition, issuing new numbers allows the Maine IRP Unit to purge obsolete records from our computer systems and files.

All Maine IRP Registrations are initiated at the town of record to collect “Excise” taxes and then are forwarded to the Main Office to complete their registrations. BMV Branches and municipalities may start to receive old Maine IRP plates starting in January 2011. In the event you receive a set of old Maine IRP plates, please fill out a “MV-553 – Return Plate Card” and forward to the IRP unit in the Main Office so they can update their records.

RETURNED PLATE CARD		<input type="checkbox"/> BMV-Entered
Registrant (s) Name: _____	Plate # Returned _____	Class _____
Address _____	# of Plates Returned <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2	
Zip _____	Expires: Month _____ Year _____	
Reason For Return (check all that apply):	Registration Cert. Returned (Yellow): <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	New Plate # _____ Class _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Requested new style (class) plates.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mutilated.	Validation Stamp
<input type="checkbox"/> Requested vanity plates.	<input type="checkbox"/> Lost/Found.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Will no longer register a vehicle in Maine.	<input type="checkbox"/> Recovered/removed by law enforcement.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Suspension.	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
Branch Office/Municipal Office _____	Date: _____	Clerks Initials: _____
MV-553-Revised 5/97	MAINE BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES 29 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0029	

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the IRP unit at (207) 624-9000 extension 52135, or meirp@maine.gov.

cc: Rick Desjardins, Director Public Services
Rhonda Boynton, Senior Section Manager - North
Lucy Taylor, Senior Section Manager - Central
Michael Ptak, Senior Section Manager - South