



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES


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GOVERNOR

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SECRETARY

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To: All License Plate Agencies
Vehicle Services Personnel
License and Theft Bureau
CVR
Dealer Track

From: Michael E. Bryant, Director 
Vehicle Services

Subject: Provisions of Inspections for transfer of plates when transferring
ownership of vehicles

Effective October 21, 2011, the following procedural change will be instituted in accordance with SB1242 which states: "A new or used vehicle acquired from a retailer or a private sale in this State and registered with the Division with a new registration or a transferred registration must be inspected in accordance with this Part when the current registration expires unless it has received a passing inspection within the previous 12 months."

When an individual transfers ownership of a vehicle into their name and transfers a plate to the vehicle at the same time, if the plate being transferred will expire within 12 months of the new vehicle's last inspection, the system will not require the vehicle to be inspected again prior to renewal of that plate. The customer will be given one more year on their inspection due date. The customer's new registration card will show the next inspection of the vehicle is due one year more than the plate's expiration. This exemption of inspection is only given at the time the customer transfers the title into their name and transfers the plate **at the same time**. If the plate being transferred expires outside the 12 months of the new vehicle's last inspection the exemption will not be given or if the title and transfer of plate are done in two separate services the exemption will not be given.