



STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

6 EMPIRE STATE PLAZA, ALBANY, NY 12228

BARBARA J. FIALA
Commissioner

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Albany, New York

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TO: All Enforcement Agencies and Magistrates

SUBJECT: New Emergency Management (EM) License Plate Program and New
Temporary License Plate

Emergency Management License Plate Program

Effective March 20, 2014, the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and the New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) will begin a new Emergency Management (EM) license plate program.

All authorized Political Subdivisions (PSDs) and State Agencies will receive notification of their eligibility to receive EM license plates. The EM license plate will ensure that PSDs and local government personnel whose vehicles are not clearly marked but who have a critical role in emergency response and management have access to incident locations as well as reserved assets, such as emergency fuel supplies.

For both PSDs and State agencies, the license plates will have a white background and a maroon banner, with the “EM” designation appearing on the upper left hand corner. The PSD plates will display the name of the PSD to the left of the plate number. The 1st two digits of the plate number will be stacked vertically, followed by the remaining 4 digits of the plate number. The county provided to DMV when the vehicle was registered will be displayed across the bottom of the plate (see attached sample).

State agencies will also have the name of the State Agency displayed on the plate to the left of the plate number. The 1st two digits of the plate number will be stacked vertically, followed by the remaining 4 digits of the plate number. A sticker with the vehicle’s county of primary use will display in the upper right corner of the plate, with a 4 letter county code abbreviation (see attached sample).

Temporary License Plate

Upon initial application each entity that has met the DHSES established criteria will be issued a temporary paper license plate (see attached sample) along with their registration document to use until the Official License Plates are received by mail. A windshield sticker will not be required.

The temporary plate will be handwritten and issued by a local DMV office. It will include the letters "EM" in the upper left hand corner, the 6 digit plate number will be written inside the blocks and it will have an expiration date that will expire 30 days from the date the registration was processed.

The vehicle operator will be instructed to attach the temporary plate inside of the rear window and must be visible through that window. If the vehicle does not have a rear window, the permit must be displayed on the dashboard so it is fully visible through the windshield. It must not be attached to the windshield. If the vehicle does not have a rear window or dashboard (for example, a trailer), the operator must have the temporary plate in their possession and must produce it upon request.

The temporary plate is valid only for the vehicle described in the "Vehicle Information" section of the registration document.

If you have any questions or need further information regarding the EM plates, contact DHSES at (518) 242-5122.

Please share this information with appropriate staff.

Barbara J. Fiala
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Attachment

