



# GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

## ▪ MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION ▪

P.O. Box 740381, Atlanta, GA 30374-0381 ▪ Tel: 1-855-406-5221

David M. Curry, Revenue Commissioner ▪ Brent Bennett, Director

### NOTICE TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES Extension of Motor Vehicle Registrations Through May 15, 2020

#### **What is the purpose of this notice?**

Due to concerns regarding the COVID-19 coronavirus, the Georgia Department of Revenue's Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) is extending motor vehicle registrations for Georgia residents that would expire on or after March 16, 2020. MVD is automatically extending those registrations through and including Friday, May 15, 2020.

That means that motorists may continue to drive on Georgia's highways and roads using a vehicle registered in Georgia with a registration expiration date on or after March 16, 2020, even if the vehicle does not have a replacement 2020 decal. However, motorists must still meet insurance requirements and comply with all other state rules and regulations regarding the vehicle other than timely registration with the local county tag office.

#### **What do I need to do as a driver or vehicle owner?**

Most motor vehicle owners can renew their registration online at [dor.georgia.gov/motor-vehicles](http://dor.georgia.gov/motor-vehicles). If you can, please do so. Having a current 2020 decal will decrease your chances of being pulled over by a law enforcement officer. If your local county tag office is open, you can also renew your registration at the county tag office.

For those motor vehicle owners that cannot renew their registration online or get to the county tag office before their motor vehicle's registration expires, you may rely on this bulletin if your motor vehicle's registration expired on or after March 16, 2020. Print a copy of this bulletin and place it in your glovebox.

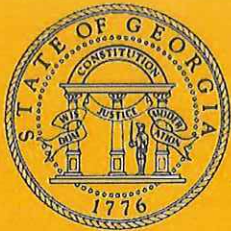
MVD is also sending copies of this bulletin to Georgia law enforcement agencies, but all officers may not receive the notice before conducting a traffic stop (and officers in other states may not receive it at all). If a law enforcement officer states that the motor vehicle does not have a current decal, the driver can present a copy of this bulletin to notify the officer of the automatic extension granted by MVD.

#### **What do I need to know as a law enforcement officer?**

Some Georgia motorists whose registration expires on or after March 16, 2020 will not be able to register their vehicles and obtain a 2020 decal due to the closure of county tag offices. Therefore, MVD is granting an extension for vehicles registered in Georgia with a registration expiration date on or after March 16, 2020. Such motor vehicles without a current 2020 decal should not be treated as out of compliance with the registration and decal requirements until Saturday, May 16, 2020.



For more information, please visit the Motor Vehicle Division website at [dor.georgia.gov/motor-vehicles](http://dor.georgia.gov/motor-vehicles) or scan the QR code.



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### **NOTICE TO GEORGIA MOTOR VEHICLE DEALERS AND ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES Extension of TOPs Through May 15, 2020**

#### **What is the purpose of this notice?**

Due to concerns regarding the COVID-19 coronavirus, the Georgia Department of Revenue's Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) will not require motorists in Georgia to replace a Temporary Operating Permit (TOP) until after Friday, May 15, 2020. That means that any TOP set to expire March 16, 2020 or later will be valid through and including Friday, May 15, 2020. This applies to all vehicles for which a TOP can be issued, including personal passenger vehicles and commercial vehicles.

#### **What is a Temporary Operating Permit (TOP)?**

A Temporary Operating Permit (TOP) is a temporary, paperlike substitute for a license plate issued by a licensed motor vehicle dealer, a Georgia county tag office, or MVD. Dealers may apply white TOP stickers to paper or paperlike sheets showing the name of the dealer. A valid TOP issued for a specific motor vehicle is the equivalent of a Georgia license plate and allows such vehicle to be driven on Georgia public highways and streets. Dealers issue TOPs to purchasers of new or used vehicles to permit use of the vehicle until the purchaser can obtain the Georgia certificate of title and register the motor vehicle in Georgia or the purchaser's home state. County tag offices and MVD also issue TOPs for various reasons.

#### **What do I need to do as a motor vehicle dealer?**

If your customer is unable to register a vehicle before the expiration of a TOP with an expiration date of March 16, 2020 or later, you may share a copy of this bulletin via e-mail, facsimile or any other method. MVD is also sending copies of this bulletin to Georgia law enforcement agencies, but all officers may not receive the notice before conducting a traffic stop involving one of these TOPs (and officers in other states may not receive it at all). If a law enforcement officer notes that the TOP has expired, the driver can present a copy of this bulletin to notify the officer of the automatic extension granted by MVD.

#### **What do I need to know as a law enforcement officer?**

Georgia TOPs contain the vehicle's vehicle identification number (near the top) and make, model and year (near the bottom). On a valid TOP, these details should match the vehicle bearing the TOP. Valid TOPs also contain a hologram of the Georgia state seal with a control number printed underneath.

As stated above, any TOP with an expiration date of March 16, 2020 or later should not be treated as expired until Saturday, May 16, 2020. If necessary, MVD may also issue another extension for TOPs in a future bulletin.



For more information, please visit the Motor Vehicle Division website at [dor.georgia.gov/motor-vehicles](http://dor.georgia.gov/motor-vehicles) or scan the QR code.



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### NOTICE TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES Motor Vehicle Extensions Through May 15, 2020

#### What is the purpose of this notice?

Due to concerns regarding the COVID-19 coronavirus, the Georgia Department of Revenue's Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) is providing various automatic extensions for Georgia motorists.

#### What extensions are being granted?

- Temporary Operating Permits (TOPs) with an expiration date of March 16, 2020 or later should not be treated as expired until Saturday, May 16, 2020.
- Vehicles with a registration expiring on or after March 16, 2020 without a current 2020 decal should not be treated as out of compliance with the registration and decal requirements until Saturday, May 16, 2020.
- Drivers who purchased the vehicle in a private sale (sale not involving a licensed motor vehicle broker or dealer) on or after March 16, 2020 should not be treated as out of compliance with the registration and license plate requirements until Saturday, May 16, 2020. The officer may ask to see the Bill of Sale (or properly assigned Certificate of Title) to confirm the vehicle was purchased on or after March 16, 2020. This exception does not apply to purchases made from or through a motor vehicle broker or dealer.

#### What else should I check to validate a TOP?

Georgia TOPs contain the vehicle's vehicle identification number (near the top) and make, model and year (near the bottom). On a valid TOP, these details should match the vehicle bearing the TOP. Valid TOPs also contain a hologram of the Georgia state seal with a control number printed underneath.



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### NOTICE TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES Extension of Private Sales Exemption Through May 15, 2020

#### What is the purpose of this notice?

Due to concerns regarding the COVID-19 coronavirus, the Georgia Department of Revenue's Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) will not require motorists in Georgia who purchased a used motor vehicle in a private sale (sales not involving a licensed motor vehicle broker or dealer) on March 16, 2020 or later to have a license plate until after May 15, 2020. That means that any driver with a valid Bill of Sale dated March 16, 2020 or later in the vehicle will be able to drive the purchased motor vehicle on the highways and streets of Georgia through and including Friday, May 15, 2020 without a new license plate. This applies to all vehicles for which a license plate can be issued, including personal passenger vehicles and commercial vehicles. This extension does not apply to motor vehicles purchased through a Georgia broker or dealer.

#### What do I need to do as the purchaser of a motor vehicle?

If the county tag office in your county of residence is open, you should apply for the title and register the motor vehicle within seven (7) days of the purchase of the motor vehicle. However, if you purchased the vehicle on or after March 16, 2020 (the Bill of Sale or assigned Certificate of Title should confirm the date of purchase) and you cannot get to your county tag office due to the COVID-19 epidemic, then you may rely on this bulletin. Print a copy of this bulletin and place it in your glovebox along with a copy of your Bill of Sale (or properly assigned Certificate of Title). Law enforcement officers may ask to review the Bill of Sale to confirm that you qualify for this extension.

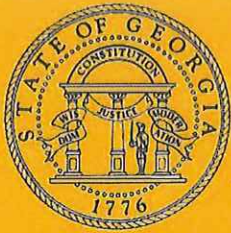
MVD is also sending copies of this bulletin to Georgia law enforcement agencies, but all officers may not receive the notice before conducting a traffic stop (and officers in other states may not receive it at all). If a law enforcement officer notes that the motor vehicle does not have a current, valid license plate, the driver can present a copy of this bulletin to notify the officer of the automatic extension granted by MVD.

#### What do I need to know as a law enforcement officer?

Some Georgia motorists who purchased a motor vehicle from an individual or business other than a motor vehicle broker or dealer will not be able to register their vehicles within the normal seven (7) day period due to the closure of county tag offices. Therefore, MVD is granting an extension of the seven-day period through Friday, May 15, as long as the driver produces a Bill of Sale (or properly assigned Certificate of Title) showing the vehicle was purchased on or after March 16, 2020. Such motor vehicles without a valid license plate should not be treated as out of compliance with the registration and license plate requirements until Saturday, May 16, 2020.



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### IRP/IFTA NOTICE

## Waiver from IRP and IFTA Requirements Through May 16, 2020

#### What is the purpose of this notice?

Due to concerns regarding the COVID-19 coronavirus, the Georgia Department of Revenue (DOR) and its Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) are waiving the requirements for motor carriers and individual truck drivers to comply with the requirements associated with Georgia International Registration Plan (IRP) and the International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) trip and fuel permits. The waiver terminates on May 16, 2020 at 5 p.m.

#### What do I need to do as a motor carrier or truck driver?

The requirements in Georgia associated with IRP and IFTA trip and fuel permits are hereby waived for vehicles providing direct assistance with relief efforts relating to the public health emergency.

This waiver shall not be construed to allow any vehicle to operate in the State of Georgia without valid vehicle registration and insurance as required by the base state. Additionally, carriers are required to maintain compliance with all driver, owner, vehicle and carrier compliance requirements that may fall outside this waiver or with any other rule, statute or requirement.

The waiver shall not apply to motor carriers or drivers that are currently subject to state or federal out-of-service orders.

The waiver automatically terminates on May 16, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. unless it is renewed by the Department of Revenue.



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