



MARION COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR NEWSLETTER

HONORABLE GEORGE J. ALBRIGHT III VOLUME 2018-2

Driver License Designations

The recently redesigned Florida driver licenses now allow you to add various designations to your driver license that inform law enforcement, emergency medical personnel, retail establishments or any persons reviewing the driver license of conditions or entitlements.

Any person that is deaf or hard of hearing may have the international symbol for the deaf placed on his or her driver license. This designation may be added at the customer's request and does not require any additional proof.







Deaf or Hard of Hearing Designation

Any person that has a developmental disability may have a "D" designation added to his or her identification card to alert law enforcement and emergency services personnel of the person's disability. To add the designation, the customer must present an Application for Identification Card with Developmental Disability Designation, Form HSMV 72120, signed by a physician.



Developmental Disability Designation

Any person that has a FWC lifetime freshwater fishing license, a lifetime saltwater fishing license, a lifetime hunting license, a lifetime sportsman's license or a lifetime boater safety identification card, may have the designation added to their Florida driver license. To have one of these designations added to the license, the customer must present the lifetime license issued by FWC.

				
<i>FWC Lifetime Sportsman's Designation</i>	<i>FWC Lifetime Boater Designation</i>	<i>FWC Lifetime Freshwater Designation</i>	<i>FWC Lifetime Saltwater Designation</i>	<i>FWC Lifetime Hunting Designation</i>

These designations may be added for a one-time fee of \$1.00, in addition to all other applicable fees, during an Original, Renewal or Replacement transaction. Customers requesting a replacement license for the sole purpose of adding this designation (no other changes can be made) may do so for \$9.25.

Veterans Designations & Fees

Any U.S. veteran discharged or released under “Honorable” or “Under Honorable Conditions” may have a Veteran Designation placed on his or her driver license. The veteran is required to provide a copy of their DD214 or other approved discharge document at the time of issuance.



Effective 07/01/18, if you are an honorably discharged U.S. veteran, you will no longer be charged the \$6.25 Tax Collector Service Fee on any driver license or identification transaction that is processed in a Tax Collector Office. Proof of veteran status will be required. Once you have been designated as a veteran on your record, you will no longer be required to provide proof.

REAL ID



The federal REAL ID Act is a nationwide effort to improve the integrity and security of State-issued driver licenses and identification cards, which in turn will help fight terrorism and reduce identity fraud.

Florida began issuing REAL ID licenses and ID cards in January 2010. The gold star in the upper right hand corner of the license or ID card denotes that the credential is REAL ID compliant.

Why is it important that you have a REAL ID compliant credential? Effective October 1, 2020 to board a federally regulated commercial aircraft, you will either need to have a REAL ID compliant credential or if you are not REAL ID compliant, you will also have to produce a second form of ID.

To date, Marion County is 88% compliant. There are a total of 279,047 driver licenses and ID cards issued that are REAL ID compliant.

Another change that took place with the REAL ID Act is that you are no longer allowed to have both a driver license and an identification card simultaneously. If you currently have both, one will be cancelled during your next card issuance.

To inquire about the necessary documents to become REAL ID compliant, please call our Call Center at 352-368-8200.

Hope Scholarship Program

Beginning October 1, 2018 the purchaser of a motor vehicle shall be granted a dollar-for-dollar tax credit, up to \$105, through the Hope Scholarship Program for an eligible contribution to a nonprofit scholarship funding organization.

For the purposes of the Hope Scholarship, the term “purchase” does not include the lease or rental of a motor vehicle and a “motor vehicle” does not include a heavy truck (truck with a net weight of 5,001 lbs or more), truck tractor, trailer, motorcycle, moped, motor home, bus, recreational vehicle or golf cart.

The purchaser will be provided a Contribution Election Form, as provided by the Department of Revenue, at the time of purchase or at the time of registration.

This innovative scholarship opportunity allows students who are systematically bullied to refocus on their education by utilizing a Hope Scholarship to help provide financial assistance to attend a Florida Department of Education-approved private school or for transportation to an out-of-district public school.

Step Up is the only organization administering the Hope Scholarship Program for the 2018-2019 school year and scholarships will be awarded throughout the state.



Charities Updates



All of our offices worked very hard to collect and purchase back to school supplies for Stuff the Bus. We were able to fill the bus and provide the Marion County School Board with a check for \$1000!

Our September Bunco event was a HUGE success! Thank you to all who came out and spent the evening rolling the dice with us! We were able to provide Interfaith Emergency Services with 1080 lbs of food that we collected that night and a check for \$5500 from the proceeds to benefit the Food 4 Kids program!



Upcoming Events...



Beginning October 1st we will be accepting \$5 donations to purchase turkeys for Interfaith Emergency Services. Your donations are greatly appreciated! Last year we were able to help 750 families in need. With your help, we are hoping to exceed that number this year!

The Marion County Tax Collector's Office is a proud sponsor of Wreaths Across America. You too can help support this wonderful cause with a \$5 donation during the month of November. Our goal is to sponsor 200 wreaths this year!



Mark your calendars! Our next Bunco Event benefiting local charities is on February 1st, 2019. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Our 9th Annual Car Show is on February 16th, 2019! We are looking for sponsors! If interested, please contact Louann at 352-368-8245.

