



## IMPORTANT NOTICE

February 29, 2012

TO: Tax Collectors  
FROM: Division of Motorist Services  
SUBJECT: Increase in Postage for Metal License Plates

On January 22, 2012, the United States Postal Service raised its shipping rates. The new cost to mail a metal license plate is \$2.55. This is an increase of \$0.40, up from \$2.15. Unfortunately, the USPS was late notifying the Department, and we had already sent registration renewal data for February through May.

Section 320.031(2), Florida Statutes, allows us to collect a mail service charge equal to the actual postage required, rounded to the nearest 5 cents, plus a 25-cent handling charge. However, renewal notices mailed for the above months will not have the new charges included on them. The postage rates for decals will remain the same, so this only affects renewals that involve a replacement of the metal license plate.

Tax collector offices statewide process approximately 500 replacements of metal license plates each month. This includes replacements for persons renewing in the office, those that are done online and those mailed in. The shortage will occur for those mailed in based on the amount shown on their renewal notice. The shortage for each transaction will be \$0.40.

Effective today, transactions processed online will charge the correct fee. The Department's registration renewal data for expirations June 1 and after will reflect the new postage fee of \$2.55 for a replacement plate.