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NEW WEB FEATURE TELLS DRIVERS IF THEY CAN OPT FOR SCHOOL INSTEAD OF POINTS

~ Department provides information about your driving status ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Have you received a speeding ticket and wondered if you can take a course to improve your driving skills and avoid points to your license? The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles has added a new feature to its website, which tells customers who have received traffic citations in Florida if they are eligible to attend driver improvement school in lieu of points on their driving record. Drivers may elect to attend driver improvement school up to once per year and five times in a 10-year period.

To access the information, visit www.flhsmv.gov/dlcheck, enter the driver license number and click *Enter*. The results indicate whether a driver can opt for driver improvement school, the last time the driver chose the school option, and the number of times the driver took a course during the previous 10 years. Drivers also will find a link to the list of approved driving courses on our website.

The Department's studies show that driver improvement courses can have a positive effect on driver safety by reducing crashes and traffic violations. However, less than a quarter of drivers who receive citations elect to attend a traffic school.

Attending driving school can provide you with the following benefits:

- Points are not assessed to the driver record, adjudication of guilt is withheld and safe driver status is maintained.
- Insurance rates cannot increase, and the driver's policy cannot be canceled because of this violation unless the violation was a result of a crash where the driver was at fault.

“The new website feature is an example of ways the Department continues to enhance customer service,” said Division of Driver Licenses Director Sandra Lambert. “We are always looking at how we can benefit customers by making the best use of technology.”

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles would like to encourage customers to skip the trip and use our many online services at www.flhsmv.gov. Customers can check the status of their motor vehicles or driver licenses, renew their driver licenses, identification cards, vehicle tags and change their addresses in the convenience of their homes or offices. Additionally, customers who need to visit a driver licenses office may schedule an appointment online.

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