



DEPARTMENT NOTICE

21-043
03/11/21

Temporary License Plates (TLP)

Assembly Bill 516 (link to Chapter 90, Statutes of 2016) requires vehicles sold by California licensed dealers and lessor-retailers to electronically report the sale of a vehicle directly to the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

When a dealer reports a sale electronically, the system will generate a numbered report of sale form. The dealer must attach the temporary identification portion of the report of sale form to the windshield of the vehicle.

If the vehicle does not already display the required number of permanent license plates, the dealer also will be required to print and issue temporary license plates and attach them to the vehicle before leaving the dealership. Valid temporary license plates must be printed on special paper available only to dealers and will include security features.

Temporary license plates will display the following information:

- Temporary license plate number
- Report of sale number
- Vehicle Identification Number
- Year Model/Make
- An expiration date that is 90 days after the date of sale.



Members are reminded of the requirement to also attach their issued permanent plates as the bill “..require(s) a person upon receipt of permanent license plates to replace and destroy the temporary license plates.”

The vehicle sale information reported by the dealers electronically will be maintained by the DMV in a database that will be available to law enforcement and other entities authorized by law to obtain such information.


To access TLP information in CLETS, the Level II REG/H masks have been updated to include the new "K" code in the drop down menu as indicated below. **The K code must be chosen to access the DMV database for TLP information.**

-- License Inquiry --
CF -or- License #
Information Code: 4-Complete Record and/or any DMV Automation Information
File Code:

-- OR VIN Inquiry --
VIN
Information Code:
Vehicle Year
Vehicle Make

-- OR Name Inquiry --
Last Name
or Company Name

- A - Auto
- B - Vessels
- C - Commercial
- E - Exempt
- F - Off-Highway Vehicles
- H - Amateur Radio (HAM)
- I - Apportioned Vehicle (IRP)
- K - Temporary License Plate (TLP)**
- L - Environmental License Plate (ELP) configurations, regular,
- M - Motorcycle
- P - Prorate Commercial Trailers or Apportioned Title Only
- S - Special Interest license (e.g. Disabled Person Parking Pla



Please note: When entering into any of the Level II SVS/QV masks, **ONLY enter the vehicle's VIN**, not the temporary license plate number. Due to the temporary nature of these plates, there is no ability to update the DOJ's stolen vehicle database with these temporary licenses.

William Scott
WILLIAM SCOTT
Chief of Police

Per DN 20-150, all sworn and non-sworn members shall electronically acknowledge this Department document in PowerDMS. Members whose duties are relevant to this document shall be held responsible for compliance. Any questions regarding this policy should be made to sfpd.writtendirectives@sfgov.org who will provide additional information.