

Vehicle Industry News

VIN 2017-08

Verification of Alternate VIN

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Effective: Immediately

New Information

Only the California Highway Patrol (CHP) may search for an alternate vehicle identification number (VIN) and complete the Verification of Vehicle (REG 31) form when the U.S. Federal Certification Label is missing, illegible, or damaged.

Procedures

If the U.S. Federal Certification Label is missing, illegible, or damaged, refer the vehicle to CHP for verification. Do **not** search for an alternate VIN or reference an alternate VIN on the REG 31.

Background

The U.S. Federal Certification Label is used as a secondary verification of the public VIN when completing a REG 31. In the past, when the U.S. Federal Certification Label was missing, illegible, or damaged, an alternate VIN was verified by an authorized Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) employee. In a meeting with CHP and other law enforcement agencies, CHP requested that an alternate VIN not be verified by DMV. The vehicle must be verified by CHP.

Distribution

Notification that this memo is available online at www.dmv.ca.gov under Publications was made via California DMV's Automated Email Alert System in March 2017.

References

Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual, Chapters 12 and 13

Contact

Call the DMV Customer Communications Section at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo.