

Discontinued Honorary Consul License Plates

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Effective Immediately

New Policy

At the request of the United States Department of State (DOS), the Honorary Consul License Plates program is discontinued.

- The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will **not** issue, replace, or reassign Honorary Consul License Plates.
- DMV will cancel and recall **all** Honorary Consul License Plates.
- Registered vehicles with Honorary Consul License Plates will be assigned and mailed standard sequential license plates. With the license plates, vehicle owners will receive a letter explaining the program is discontinued and requires surrender or destruction of the Honorary Consul License Plates.
- Honorary Consul License Plates may be surrendered to DMV by mail to:
Department of Motor Vehicles
Special Processing Unit, MS D238
P. O. Box 932345
Sacramento, CA 94232-3450
—In person at a DMV or any American Automobile Association (AAA) field office:
DMV/AAA field offices **must** forward surrendered Honorary Consul License Plates to the Special Processing Unit (SPU), MS D238.
- The Special Recognition License Plate Application (REG 17A) form will be revised to remove the Honorary Consul License Plates.

Background

Vehicle Code §5006 allows for the issuance of Honorary Consul License Plates to an honorary consular officer or similar official who is a citizen of the United States, or a permanent resident of this country, who is appointed by a foreign country for the purpose of facilitating and promoting the interest of that country.

DOS requested that states discontinue Honorary Consul License Plates and recall all outstanding license plates.

References

Vehicle Code §5006

Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual, Chapter 21

Distribution

Notification that this memo is available at **dmv.ca.gov** under Vehicle Industry Services, was made via the California DMV Automated Email Alert System in November 2021.

Contact

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