From: Sharr, Traci
To: Catrenich, Jarid; Kruse, Kevin; Scott, Caitlin; Camel, Erika; Henry, Eric; Nichols, Bethany; Leib, Debbie; Sharr, Donald; Maahs, Jason; Ridout, Ryan; Dahm, Ryan; Leeman, Christopher; Bremer-Jaacks, Lorrain; Demuth, Mary; Jansen, Alexander; Cunningham, Charles; Pinegar, Angela; Fowler, Rhonda; Smith, Megan; Said, Denise; Klaas, Mellisa; Heddendorf, Ellen; Duncan, Chris; Freeman, Deborah
Subject: January 2026 Newsletter
Date: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 2:43:19 PM
Attachments: image002.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png
Iowa Fake Plates.pdf



Off-Road Dirt Bike Title & Registration

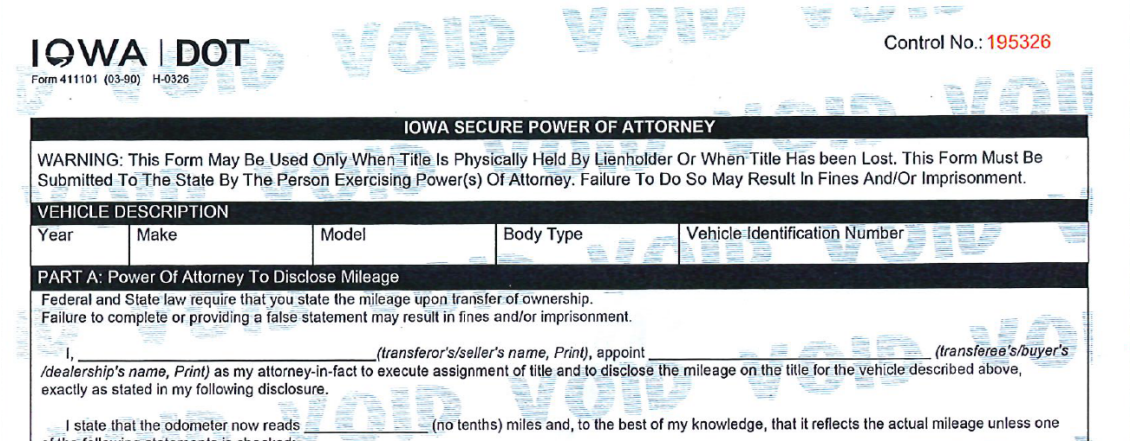
We've identified that at least three hundred off-road dirt bikes were improperly titled and registered via county treasurer offices. These vehicles cannot be registered by the counties due to the absence of an FMVSS label and because they are not designed for both on-road and off-road use; they must instead be registered through the county recorder's office.

There is no need to reach out to customers who have already obtained titles and registrations for their off-road dirt bikes. We are collaborating with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Department of Revenue (DOR) to finalize the process to support affected customers. Going forward, treasurer offices will be mandated to all motorcycle VINs using the NHTSA VIN Decoder prior to processing titles or registrations, except for motorcycles that are 25 years or older. At present, this is the sole method to identify the VINS that comply with FMVSS requirements. Fortunately, MVD CORE will rectify this issue in the future.

Here is a link to the NHTSA VIN decoder: https://vpic.nhtsa.dot.gov/decoder/

New SPOA

Recently, it was necessary to change vendors for printing MVD-issued Secure Power of Attorney forms (SPOA – from 411101). MVD issues this SPOA to licensed dealers. The template of the form and process for completing the form did not change. However, there is a new look and different security features on the new version. There is a light blue color to the front of the form that does not carry over to scans or copies, while the back of the form is white. A scan or copy of the form will reveal the word "VOID" printed repeatedly in a diagonal manner. On color copies the "VOID" lines appear to be blue. Use of a control number continues. County staff will need to accept both versions of the SPOA, but the previous version should be out of circulation very soon. SPOA forms provided to dealers by the Iowa Automobile Dealers Association (IADA- SPOA & IADA-SPOA1) have not changed and are still acceptable.



IOWA | DOT
Form 411101 (03-90) H-0326

Control No.: 195326

IOWA SECURE POWER OF ATTORNEY

WARNING: This Form May Be Used Only When Title Is Physically Held By Lienholder Or When Title Has been Lost. This Form Must Be Submitted To The State By The Person Exercising Power(s) Of Attorney. Failure To Do So May Result In Fines And/Or Imprisonment.

VEHICLE DESCRIPTION

Year	Make	Model	Body Type	Vehicle Identification Number

PART A: Power Of Attorney To Disclose Mileage

Federal and State law require that you state the mileage upon transfer of ownership.
Failure to complete or providing a false statement may result in fines and/or imprisonment.

I, _____ *(transferor's/seller's name, Print)*, appoint _____ *(transferee's/buyer's /dealership's name, Print)* as my attorney-in-fact to execute assignment of title and to disclose the mileage on the title for the vehicle described above, exactly as stated in my following disclosure.

I state that the odometer now reads _____ (no tenths) miles and, to the best of my knowledge, that it reflects the actual mileage unless one

Training Updates

The AAMVA Fraud Detection & Remediation (FDR) Online Training Modules are launching soon in Workday Learning! These mandatory courses must be completed by all vehicle services employees by May 1st, and treasurers will also have their own assigned modules. Stay tuned for details and get ready to sharpen your fraud detection skills!

We still have some seats open for our MVD/County Vehicle Fraud Training Days in Carroll and Pella in April. Click here to learn more and register your county. Only one registration submission per county
is needed- Please register all staff at once. Stay tuned for more details on the upcoming Eastern Iowa training day!

Fraudulent License Plates

In the previous month, several counties reported receiving fraudulent Iowa license plates through the mail. All these plates were dispatched from a USPS Distribution Center located at 1900 Byberry Road, Philadelphia, PA 19116. These plates have been modified to resemble the appearance of aged, worn plates, yet they are constructed from materials that differ from those used in our standard license plates. Additionally, the expiration stickers were permanently printed onto the plates. Each package received by the impacted counties in Iowa included a USPS damage notification letter.

Attached to this newsletter is an example of these fraudulent plates along with instructions From our investigators on how to manage the plates if they are received.

Printers

VRT printers (Lexmark) are maintained by Marco for vehicle transactions. Should you encounter any issues with your printer's functionality, kindly call the number located on the front of your printer and provide the serial number found on that same sticker. Please refrain from reaching out to the DOT helpdesk regarding printer performance concerns. The DOT helpdesk is only equipped to assist with software-related issues.

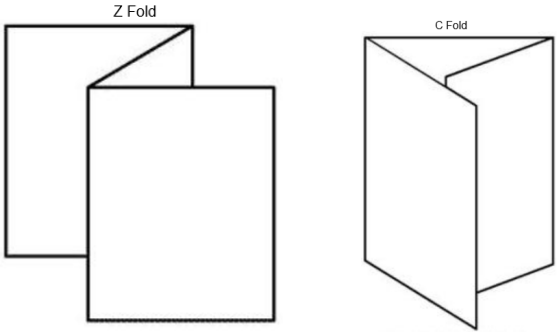
IDEMIA Printers (Brother) are designated for driver services. If you experience any difficulties with your printer's operation, please reach out to the IDEMIA help desk at HelpMe@us.idemia.com. Additionally, please cc Jacqui.DiGiacinto@iowadot.us. If you do not receive a timely response from

IDEMIA, inform Jacqui so she can follow up directly with IDEMIA to ensure the issue is resolved. To request new toner or supplies, please contact the IDEMIA help desk at HelpMe@us.idemia.com and cc Jacqui.DiGiacinto@iowadot.us. The DOT helpdesk does not provide support for these printers.

For inquiries regarding supplies, please reach out to Rhonda.Fowler@iowadot.us.

Folding Registration Receipts

Please fold the outgoing registration receipts in a “Z” fold, not a “C” fold. The Z fold increases customer awareness of the information printed on the back of the registration receipt.



Thank you!

Reminder: Past newsletters can be located on the county vehicle resource site.

We want to hear from you! Please click here to share feedback regarding your experience with this newsletter.

Iowa Department of Transportation
county.vehicle@iowadot.us