DATE: September 19, 2014

TO: Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee: Sheffie Kadane (Chair), Adam Medrano (Vice Chair), Dwaine Caraway, Jennifer S. Gates, Sandy Greyson, Scott Griggs

SUBJECT: Electronic Tags (E-Tags) and Temporary License Plate (Paper tags) Overview

On Monday, September 22, 2014, you will be briefed on Electronic Tags (E-Tags) and Temporary License Plate (Paper tags) Overview. The briefing materials are attached for your review.

Ryan S. Evans
First Assistant City Manager

Attachment

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
    A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager
    Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
    Warren M. S. Ernst, City Attorney
    Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
    Daniel E. Solis, Administrative Judge
    Jill A. Jordan, P. E., Assistant City Manager
    Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager

    Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
    Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
    Charles M. Cato, Interim Assistant City Manager
    Theresa O’Donnell, Interim Assistant City Manager
    Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
    Sana Syed, Public Information Officer
    Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council

“Dallas - Together, we do it Better”
Electronic Tags (E-Tags) and Temporary License Plate (Paper Tags) Overview
Public Safety Committee
September 22, 2014
Purpose of Presentation

• The purpose of this presentation is to give an overview of use of Paper Dealer E-Tags as well as methods for police officers to enforce use and misuse of E-Tags
Obsolete Paper Tag

Discontinued in 2009
History of Obsolete Paper Tag

- Easily counterfeited
- No expiration date
- Not vehicle specific
- Could be passed around and used for criminal activity
- Not easily traceable
- New E-Tags make these activities more difficult
- E-Tags began in June 2009
Texas Transportation Code

• Violation of Chapter 503
  – Unlicensed Sales Motor Vehicles TRC 503.021
  misuse of Temporary Tags – TRC 503.038 (a) 12
  – Fine of $50 to $5,000
  – E- Tags are Temporary Tags generated by the State of Texas for licensed dealers
  – E-Tags are generated through the internet
  – E- Tags are good for 60 days
Example of E-Tag
E-Tag Meanings

• License number leads officers to the car VIN number and owner when it is run on the officers computer
• The car year and make on the license plate should match the car
• The expiration date is on the E-Tag
Buyers Receipt

• A buyers receipt must be in the vehicle or ready to display to a law enforcement officer

• Even if the E-tag is valid, failure to display or provide the buyers receipt is a violation under state law

• A violation is a Class B penalty
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue Date</th>
<th>VIN</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Make</th>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Body Style</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-25-2008</td>
<td>VK157K031T3238323</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Volkswagen</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Beetle</td>
<td>2-Dr Sedan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Issuing Dealer**

ABC Auto Sales

**Dealer Number**

P 12345

**Owner #1 Name**

E. Z. Byer

**Owner #1 Street Address**

123 Main Street     Austin, Texas 78704

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**BUYER’S TAG RECEIPT – BUYER’S COPY**

**THIS IS THE BUYER’S TAG NUMBER:** 42F8851

**THIS IS THE EXPIRATION DATE:** 7-18-2008

**DATE OF SALE:** 6-25-2008

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**BUYER** is required to keep this receipt in the vehicle until vehicle is registered and metal plates are placed on the vehicle.
This is an example of what the Dealer Tag-Assigned to Vehicle looks like when completed.

TExAS DEALER
VEHICLE OWNED BY JOHN DOE AUTO SALES
THIS VEHICLE TEMPORARILY REGISTERED WITH STATE UNDER TAG #

45V7650
EXPIRES 06-15-2007
2000 FORD
VIN 1FTNE2429YHA13373
FOR INTRANSIT, ROAD TESTING, DEMONSTRATION AND USE
BY CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS
Dealers Temporary Tags

• A dealer may issue a temporary tag on an unregistered vehicle for use by the dealer or the dealer's employees only to:
  – Demonstrate to a prospective buyer the vehicle for sale purposes only
  – For transport from one of the dealer's places of business to another
  – For transport from the dealer's place of business to a place the vehicle is to be serviced
Probable Cause For Traffic Stops

• Failure to properly display e-tags
• Tag must be securely attached
• Tag must be visible while vehicle is in motion
• Tag must be covered in weatherproof material
Texas Motor Vehicle Transfer Notification Form VTR-346

• Form used to protect customer from being charged with unpaid parking or toll fines
• Upon submittal, a note will be placed on the registration return that indicates the vehicle has been transferred
• Form may be obtained from www.dmv.state.tx.us
Summary

• Paper Dealer E-Tags give officers needed information to enforce violations and verify ownership
• Most violations are enforced with a Class C citation
• Since January 2013, we have filed 58 Class B cases for these violations
• In 2014 we have confiscated E-Tags from one dealer due to violations
Summary Continued

• Auto Theft detectives give a quarterly one day class at the Police Academy that teaches them when and how to enforce E-Tag violations
QUESTIONS?