

Guidelines of the North Carolina Vehicle Electronic Inspection Program

For

Law Enforcement Officers



DCI: Inspection Information Interpretation

The North Carolina General Assembly passed legislation (N.C. General Statute Chapter 20, Article 3A, Part 1) requiring the move to electronic inspection authorization to increase inspection compliance statewide and to further benefit the state's air quality and highway safety.

Since November 1, 2008, North Carolina's vehicle safety and emissions inspections became electronic and automated. This is called the electronic sticker program. This means that windshield inspection stickers will no longer be issued at any vehicle state inspection station on or after November 1. Rather than receive a sticker, vehicles will be given an electronic authorization which reports that the vehicle has been inspected and registered as required by law. The vehicle's safety and emissions inspection will become due the same month as the vehicle's registration.

One of the issues associated with this program is trying to determine when your next inspection is due. In order to determine the inspection due date, you must follow the "what comes first" rule.

1. If your inspection date "comes first" before your registration renewal, have your vehicle inspected when indicated. Your next registration renewal card will indicate your subsequent inspection date.
2. If your registration renewal date "comes first" before the date on your windshield sticker, follow the instructions provided with your registration and disregard the date on the inspection sticker. Future inspections will be aligned with your registration renewal dates.
3. If your next inspection date and your registration renewal are due the same month, you will not have to make any changes. Continue to have your vehicle inspected and your registration renewed as before.
4. Inspection mechanics will continue to issue a receipt showing the date, station and results of your inspection, and a record of your inspection will be entered into the DMV's vehicle registration database.
5. You may have your vehicle inspected up to 90 days prior to your annual vehicle registration due date, but it must be inspected no later than the last day of the month your vehicle registration expires or your registration will be blocked.
6. During the implementation period, your next vehicle inspection may be greater than 12 months from your last inspection date. No vehicle will have to be inspected more than once in a 12-month period.

During the implementation period, the alignment of the vehicle inspection due date with the vehicle registration due date could take several years to fully implement. To learn more about the electronic inspection program or how to calculate the next inspection due date, please log on to our website www.ncdot.gov and click on DMV in the yellow highlighted bar.

When an inquiry on the DCI system is conducted, there are a couple of notes that might be of interest.

1. If the vehicle has no inspection violation, you will simply see your typical screen with insurance information and no special note.
2. If the vehicle has an expired inspection violation, you will see a special note attach to your inquiry reply as follow:

VEHICLE HAS AN INSPECTION VIOLATION
VEHICLE LAST INSPECTED ON: _____

3. If the vehicle has no inspection on record, you will see a special note attached to your inquiry reply as follow:

VEHICLE HAS AN INSPECTION VIOLATION
NO INSPECTION FOUND

If number 2 or 3 stated above is present during the traffic stop, you can issue the driver a traffic citation with the following violation in the North Carolina General Statues:

20-183.8. Infractions and criminal offenses for violations of inspection requirements.

- (a) Infractions. – A person who does any of the following commits an infraction and, if found responsible, is liable for a penalty of up to fifty dollars (\$50.00):

- (1) Operates a motor vehicle that is subject to inspection under this Part on a highway or public vehicular area in the State when the vehicle has not been inspected in accordance with this Part, as evidenced by the vehicle's lack of a current electronic inspection authorization or otherwise.

Law enforcement officers are urged to request a printout of the DCI inquiry reply to be used as evidence in court at a later time.

Reference: 02IX000020
Msg Key : QVR
Date/Time: 20081217122634
Source : DMVREG

Sample
Test

02IX000020.DMVREG.QVR.20081217122634.
TO: DCIT7 -002537 20081217 12:26:34 18B30055F3
FROM: DMVREG 20081217 12:26:34

N.C. VEHICLE REGISTRATION SYSTEM

RESPONSE BASED UPON:

PLATE NO: NSD3098 YEAR: LIENS: PAGES: 7
ATTENTION:

VEHICLE DETAIL RESPONSE

VIN: 2G1WL52M4T9193948 1996 CHEVROLET LUMINA 4S
TITLE NO: 771461001594909 PURCHASE DT: 04142000

CUSTOMER ID: 21151901 DOB: HANDICAP PLACARD:
COMPASS GROUP USA PLACARD STATUS:
3050 TATE BLVD SE TAX COUNTY: CATAWBA
HICKORY NC 28602-1454 PLT STATUS: ACTIVE

CURRENT PLATE NO: NSD3098 WGT: ISSUE DT: 04222008 VALID THRU: 07152009
INS CO: ZURICH AMERICAN INS CO POLICY: BAP834437601
PRIOR PLATE NO: NSD3098 WGT: ISSUE DT: 04042007 VALID THRU: 07152008
INS CO: ZURICH AMERICAN INS CO POLICY: BAP834437601
END OF MESSAGE

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No Violation

Reference: 02IX00001Q
Msg Key : QVR
Date/Time: 20081217122335
Source : DMVREG

Sample
Test

02IX00001Q.DMVREG.QVR.20081217122335.

TO: DCIT7 -002530 20081217 12:23:35 18B30055F1
FROM: DMVREG 20081217 12:23:34

N.C. VEHICLE REGISTRATION SYSTEM

RESPONSE BASED UPON:

VIN: 2GAGG39K3N4113685 MAKE: YEAR: B/S: LIENS: PAGES: 7
ATTENTION:

VEHICLE DETAIL RESPONSE

VIN: 2GAGG39K3N4113685 1992 CHEVROLET SPORT VAN SW
TITLE NO: 779777041196907 PURCHASE DT: 04142004

CUSTOMER ID: 667972 DOB: 05231947 HANDICAP PLACARD:
BARBARA NICKALSON HOLT PLACARD STATUS:
1408 MANDOLIN PL TAX COUNTY: WAKE
ZEBULON NC 27597-2145 PLT STATUS: EXPIRED

CURRENT PLATE NO: RXX7144 WGT: ISSUE DT: 10012004 VALID THRU: 07152005
INS CO: INTEGON NATIONAL INS CO POLICY: SAF708222303

VEHICLE HAS AN INSPECTION VIOLATION
VEHICLE LAST INSPECTED ON: 2004-10-21
END OF MESSAGE

#2

Expired Inspection

Reference: 02IX00001V
Msg Key : QVR
Date/Time: 20081217122505
Source : DMVREG

Sample
Test

02IX00001V.DMVREG.QVR.20081217122505.

TO: DCIT7 -002533 20081217 12:25:05 18B30055F2
FROM: DMVREG 20081217 12:25:04

N.C. VEHICLE REGISTRATION SYSTEM

RESPONSE BASED UPON:

PLATE NO: JYC4908 YEAR: LIENS: PAGES: 7

ATTENTION:

VEHICLE DETAIL RESPONSE

VIN: 1G8ZH5283TZ325851

1996 SATU

4S

TITLE NO: 1621140316

PURCHASE DT: 07021996

CUSTOMER ID: 11152846 DOB:
CHASE MANHATTAN AUTO FIN CORP
900 STEWART AVE
GARDEN CITY NY 11530-4855

HANDICAP PLACARD:
PLACARD STATUS:
TAX COUNTY: WAKE
PLT STATUS: EXPIRED

LESSEE ID: 21118121 DOB:
DAVID LAWRENCE LESKOVEC
LESSEE ID: 13764712 DOB:
SARAH LUNDQUIST LESKOVEC
400 W ELM AVE
HOLLY SPRINGS NC 27540-8510

PRIOR PLATE NO: JYC4908 WGT:
INS CO: ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY

ISSUE DT: 08041998 VALID THRU: 08151999
POLICY: 0904123800709

VEHICLE HAS AN INSPECTION VIOLATION
NO INSPECTION FOUND
END OF MESSAGE

3

No Inspection Reported by STARS
ON This Vehicle.