

RMV

October 26, 2016

UPDATE

Driving Record Changes

MassDOT
Registry of
Motor Vehicles
Division

Driving Record Changes

Effective October 26th, several changes will be made to driving records issued by the Registry of Motor Vehicles. There will be three different types of driving records:

- Public Driving Record
- Personal Driving History
- Full Certified Driving History

One major change is that the following information will be “shielded” from Public Driving Records and will no longer display:

- Certain drug suspensions
- Expired warrants
- Expired child support obligation information

These changes are being made to ensure that the RMV complies with recent changes to the law implemented by Chapter 64 of the Acts of 2016, An Act Relative to License Suspensions.

RMV System Change

The RMV is implementing new security within its system in order to comply with the law and appropriately shield the information that can no longer be shared publicly. While some external partners will see their level of system access change, these changes will not hinder your access to the RMV information you use on a daily basis to perform your official business functions.

Public Driving Record

A Public Driving Record includes surchargeable accidents, criminal and civil driving offenses for which a person was found either guilty or responsible, plus discretionary and administrative license suspension actions. A Public Driving Record is a complete look at a license holder’s driving career and is **no longer limited to the last 10 years of offense or suspension activity**. Certain drug suspensions, expired warrants, and expired child support obligation information is no longer displayed on a Public Driving Record as required by Chapter 64 of the Acts of 2016.

There are two versions of the Public Driving Record:

- A “True and Attested” version is stamped with an official Registrar’s stamp and is recommended for official purposes.
- An “Unattested” version is not stamped and is best for personal use.

A Public Driving Record may be provided to the license holder or to any person/organization capable of providing sufficient identifying information about the operator to receive that

particular Public Driving Record under the Federal Driver Privacy Protection Act (DPPA). Public recipients of this record include, for example, employers and the media.

If a customer cannot provide the license number of the person whose record is being requested, he/she may still qualify as a permitted user and will need to complete the *Request For Personal Information In RMV Records* form (document number T21078-1112). If the customer is found to be a permitted user, he/she is entitled to receive a Public Driving Record only.

Requesting a Public Driving Record

A customer can request a Public Driving Record in the following ways:

- Online – Use the “Request Driving Records” online transaction at www.massrmv.com. A customer can either select a True and Attested version, or an Unattested version.
- In-Person – Complete the new *Public Driving Record Request Form* (document number T21928-1016) and bring it to any RMV Service Center or to the Court Records Department, located in the Boston (Haymarket) Service Center at 136 Blackstone Street.
- By Mail - Send the completed *Public Driving Record Request Form* and a check or money order to:

Registry of Motor Vehicles
Court Records Department
PO BOX 55896
Boston MA 02205

- By Phone - Customers can call 857-368-8000 or 857-368-8195.

The fee for a True and Attested record is \$20, payable by cash, check, money order (payable to MassDOT), or credit/debit card (for online or phone requests). The fee for an Unattested record online is \$6 and it will be available for download immediately following payment.

Personal Driving History

A Personal Driving History contains surchargeable accidents, all motor vehicle offenses, regardless of disposition, plus discretionary or administrative license suspension actions that a person has accumulated over the course of his/her driving career. For example, a Personal Driving History will show dispositions on motor vehicle violations that a driver was found civilly not responsible for and criminal not guilty of having committed. The Personal Driving History contains drug offense, warrant, and child support information that is protected from public dissemination under Chapter 64 of the Acts of 2016.

A Personal Driving History is an official “True and Attested” document of the Registry, stamped with an official Registrar’s stamp. An Unattested version of a Personal Driving History is **not** available.

A Personal Driving History is available to the license-holder and anyone that holder has explicitly designated, in writing, to receive their Personal Driving History. Access to this information will remain available to RMV personnel, law enforcement, court personnel, and for other state and federal government purposes.

Requesting a Personal Driving History

A customer can request a Personal Driving History in the following ways:

- In-Person: Complete the new *Authorized Release of Personal Driving History/ Full Certified Driving History* (document number T21929-1016) and bring it to the Court Records Department, located in the Boston (Haymarket) Service Center at 136 Blackstone Street.
- By mail: Send the completed *Authorized Release of Personal Driving History/ Full Certified Driving History* and a check or money order to:

Registry of Motor Vehicles
Court Records Department
PO BOX 55896
Boston MA 02205

A Personal Driving History **cannot** be requested online or by phone.

The fee for a Personal Driving History is \$20, payable by cash, check, or money order (payable to MassDOT).

Full Certified Driving History

A Full Certified Driving History contains surchargeable accidents, all motor vehicle offenses, regardless of disposition, plus discretionary or administrative license suspension actions that a person has accumulated over the course of his/her driving career. Further, this history contains any letters that were generated and mailed to the driver from the Registry of Motor Vehicles about license suspensions and revocations. A Full Certified Driving History will show dispositions on motor vehicle violations that a driver was found civilly not responsible for and criminal not guilty of having committed. The Full Certified Driving History contains drug offense, warrant, and child support information that is protected from public dissemination under Chapter 64 of the Acts of 2016.

A Full Certified Driving History is an official “True and Attested” document of the Registry, stamped with an official Registrar’s stamp. An Unattested version of a Full Certified Driving History is **not** available.

A Full Certified Driving History is available to the license-holder and anyone that holder has explicitly designated, in-writing, to receive their Full Certified Driving History. Access to this information will remain available to RMV personnel, law enforcement, court personnel, and for other state and federal government purposes.

Requesting a Full Certified Driving History

A customer can request a Full Certified Driving History in the following ways:

- In-Person: Complete the new *Authorized Release of Personal Driving History/ Full Certified Driving History* (document number T21929-1016) and bring it to the Court Records Department, located in the Boston (Haymarket) Service Center at 136 Blackstone Street.

A Full Certified Driving History is not available on demand. It will take 24-48 hours to receive this history. A customer may choose to have it mailed or return for pick-up of the documents at the Court Records department.

- By mail: Send the completed *Authorized Release of Personal Driving History/ Full Certified Driving History* and a check or money order to:

Registry of Motor Vehicles
Court Records Department
PO BOX 55896
Boston MA 02205

A Full Certified Driving History **cannot** be requested online or by phone.

The fee for a Full Certified Driving History is \$20, payable by cash, check, or money order (payable to MassDOT).

Improper Sharing of Information

Sharing a Public Driving Record, a Personal Driving History, or a Full Certified Driving History with someone who is not entitled to this information is a violation of the Federal Driver Privacy Protection Act (DPPA).

Sharing a Personal Driving History, or a Full Certified Driving History with someone who is not entitled to this information is also a violation of Chapter 64 of the Acts of 2016.

DPPA Violations

The requirements for DPPA must be taken very seriously as violations can result in significant penalties.

- A person, who knowingly obtains, discloses, or uses personal information for purposes not permitted under DPPA, may be liable to the individual to whom the information relates. In any such action, the Court may award the greater of actual damages or \$2500, punitive damages upon proof of willful or reckless disregard of the law, and attorneys' fees and costs.
- Because this provision applies to a person who knowingly discloses information in violation of the statute (as well as someone who improperly obtains such information), it is important that all employees take their responsibilities very seriously.
- Any person who misrepresents his or her identity or makes false statements in order to obtain personal information in violation of the DPPA may be subjected to criminal prosecution, resulting in a fine, imprisonment or both.

New Forms

The following new forms will be available at www.massrmv.com in the Forms and Manuals section.

- *Public Driving Record Request Form* (document number T21928-1016)
- *Authorized Release of Personal Driving History/ Full Certified Driving History* (document number T21929-1016)