

May 2017

Dear Friend,

Florida's legislative session ends this month. If any new laws impact our services, we will post an overview on www.pbctax.com as soon as they take effect.

I want to take a moment to thank all the mothers, grandmothers and guardians who take the time to teach the next generation of drivers. We celebrate right along with you when your teens earn their first driver license. Watch for our Mother's Day posts on Instagram and Twitter at @TAXPBC.

Plan Ahead

If you get pulled over with an expired registration, the ticket costs \$116. Plan ahead to avoid this unnecessary expense. Many of our most popular transactions – like motor vehicle registration renewals – can be done online. You can renew up to 3 months before expiration.

You also don't want to get caught off guard with a suspended or revoked license. This can happen if you have unpaid traffic tickets or fail to pay child support, among other reasons. Check your driver license for stops or holds at www.flhsmv.gov/dlcheck.

Prepare

The number one reason people visit our offices is to obtain a REAL ID driver license. Before you visit our office, make sure you have all of the required documentation. Access our REAL ID checklist at www.pbctax.com/driver-licenses.

If you must visit one of our offices, plan ahead to avoid the longest lines. Our two busiest offices are located in Lake Worth and Delray Beach. Avoid visiting during peak traffic. Offices are busiest on Mondays, Fridays, and the beginning and end of the month. Also, avoid visiting the day after federal holidays like Memorial Day when our offices are closed.

Share the Road

May is Motorcycle and Bicycle Safety Awareness Month. All drivers should watch out for bicyclists and motorcyclists. After all, the road belongs to everyone. Florida law says bicycles have all the same privileges, rights, and responsibilities on public roads as drivers.

Drivers should give bikes a minimum three foot buffer when driving alongside or passing. If there is a motorcycle ahead, do not follow too closely. Motorcycles can stop quicker than other vehicles. If you are interested in getting a motorcycle endorsement or a Motorcycle Only license, visit our website to access the Florida Motorcycle Handbook.

Free Resources

Did you know we collected and distributed nearly \$3.4 billion in 2016 property taxes? That's just one of the tax facts we share in our new 2016 Annual Report. This publication explains where tax dollars go, agency achievements and future plans. Contact us for free copies at ClientAdvocate@taxcollectorpbc.com. You can also request free copies of our 2017 Tax Planner and Services Guide, packed with easy-to-understand explanations about Tax Collector services. Both publications are excellent resources to share with your community, civic or faith group.

No-Wait Disabled Parking Permits

Our agency issues Disabled Person Parking Permits, also known as handicapped placards. Did you know you can get one without visiting our office?

- 1. Download and print a copy of the Application for Disabled Person Parking Permit from our website.
- 2. You and your doctor must fill out and sign the form. A list of certifying physicians is listed on the back of the application.
- 3. Mail us the completed form along with a photo copy of your driver license/Florida ID card. Include \$15 for a temporary (red) permit. There is no charge for permanent (blue) permits. We will then mail you the parking permit.

Please note that our offices are closed on Monday, May 29 in honor of Memorial Day.

Best regards,

Anne M. Gannon