Dear County Tax Assessor-Collector:

Beginning in September, certain parents who are behind on child support will not be able to renew their vehicle registrations. Parents subject to this new enforcement tool have an Office of the Attorney General (OAG) child support case and have gone at least 180 days without making any payment.

The denial of vehicle registration renewals is authorized by state law that provides for non-renewal of Texas licenses, registrations and permits held by parents who are behind on court-ordered child support payments [TFC § 232.002]. The law does not apply to the registration of new vehicles.

Parents whose vehicle registrations expire in December will receive notice in September from the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) that their renewal is being denied due to a child support delinquency. Also, parents will receive a letter 90 days in advance informing them that their vehicle registration renewal will not be processed until they contact the OAG to arrange a payment plan and make a satisfactory payment toward the plan. Some of these parents may attempt to renew their registration without contacting the OAG to make payment arrangements.

To assist you in serving those customers, please find enclosed posters intended for customer notification of state statute changes concerning the denial of vehicle registration renewals. Within the next two (2) weeks you will also be receiving a batch of push cards. Each Tax Assessor’s office is being provided 600 push cards, two (2) posters with English verbiage and one (1) poster with Spanish verbiage. For Tax Assessors with subcontractors, an additional 300 push cards, one (1) English poster and one (1) Spanish poster is being provided to the Tax Assessor’s office for each subcontractor. Each Tax Assessor’s Substation office is also being provided with 300 push cards, two (2) English posters and one (1) Spanish poster.

Please provide customers that have been denied registration renewal with a push card that contains a phone number they can call to speak with an OAG representative. Also, please prominently display the enclosed posters in your office or on your notification boards to assist with program notification. Please do not display the posters or provide the push cards prior to September 1, 2016.

The Office of the Attorney General will provide a website with a program information page, a FAQ page for Non-Custodial Parents and County Tax Assessors-Collectors, and a page that will allow County Tax Assessors-Collectors to download or request additional push cards and posters. This website will be available from the www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/cs page after September 1, 2016.

Thank you in advance for working with the OAG on this important initiative to help ensure Texas children receive the support they need and deserve.

Sincerely,

Myra Sines
Deputy Director of Field Operations
Office of the Attorney General - Child Support Division