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Leasing or Renting of Motor Vehicles

Sec. 14-15-1. Records required by leasing firms

(a) Any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of leasing or renting motor vehicles without drivers in this state, or which is the lessor of or rents a passenger motor vehicle for a period of more than thirty days in a calendar year primarily for use in this state, shall submit periodically to the commissioner of motor vehicles certain records in a format or on a form approved by the commissioner. Such records shall be submitted within thirty (30) days after the end of each calendar quarter, which quarters end on March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31 of each calendar year; except that the commissioner may, in his discretion and after notice to any such person, firm or corporation, require the records to be submitted by such person, firm or corporation semi-annually or annually. The records required are:

(1) The total number of motor vehicles available for lease or rental in this state as of the close of business on the final day of each period. If the lessor operates under more than one business or trade name, the report shall specify each business or trade name and its corresponding leasing license number, the address of each business location operating under each business or trade name, and the number of vehicles available for lease or rental at each location;

(2) The total number of motor vehicles reported in subdivision (1) of this subsection at each business location that are not registered in this state. For vehicles reported under this subdivision the vehicle identification number (VIN), state of registration, license plate number, make, year and model of the vehicle, and business location to which the vehicle is assigned in this state shall be included; and

(3) For leasing firms that do not have a new or used car dealer's license as defined in Sections 14-51 and 14-52 of the General Statutes, the total number of motor vehicles purchased during the reporting period, the total number of motor vehicles sold during the reporting period, and of the vehicles sold during the reporting period, the number of such vehicles that were not leased or available for lease by such leasing firm prior to sale.

(b) The form or writing containing the information submitted in accordance with subsection (a) shall be signed by a person having authority to act for such person, firm or corporation.

(c) A copy of any rental or lease contract for motor vehicles subject to reporting under subsection (a) shall be made available to the commissioner or his designee within fifteen (15) days after receipt of written request.

(d) The lease or rental of a passenger motor vehicle from a location in this state which is returned or to be returned location in this state shall be considered a lease or rental primarily for use in this state.

(Effective August 29, 1990)

Requirement of Leasing Companies to Provide a Mailing Address for Registration Renewals

Sec. 14-15-2. Mailing address for registration renewals

(a) Each person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of leasing motor vehicles for a term of one year or more, and licensed in accordance with section 14-15 of the Connecticut General Statutes shall be required to file with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles a mailing address for the transmittal by the department of all applications for the renewal of the registrations of motor vehicles owned by such licensee and registered in this state. Notwithstanding any other address that

may appear on the registration files and records maintained by the commissioner, the department shall, in accordance with the provisions of section 14-22 of the Connecticut General Statutes, mail all such registration renewals to such mailing address designated by such licensee.

(b) Each such licensee shall be responsible to notify the commissioner, in writing, of any changes to the mailing address for such registration renewal purposes as set forth in subsection (a) of this section.

(Adopted effective October 1, 2001)

Temporary Registration Transfers by Motor Vehicle Lessors

Sec. 14-15-3. Definitions

As used in Sections 14-15-3 to 14-15-9, inclusive:

(a) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of motor vehicles or his designee;

(b) "Leasing company" means a person, firm or corporation currently licensed by the commissioner of motor vehicles in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-15 of the Connecticut General Statutes;

(c) "Registration" means the certificate of motor vehicle registration and the number plate or plates used in connection with such registration;

(d) "Stamp" means a hand or machine operable device or mechanism adapted to imprint on a document information as required by the commissioner, or a document having such information or a seal imprinted thereon.

(Effective February 4, 1992)

Sec. 14-15-4. Submission of application

(a) A leasing company may make application to the commissioner for authorization to issue a twenty-day temporary transfer of the current registration of a motor vehicle used in connection with its business to any other vehicle used in connection with its business. Such application shall be made in writing on a form approved by the commissioner and signed under penalty of false statement as provided in Connecticut General Statutes Section 53a-157 by a person having authority to act for such leasing company. Such form shall require such information as the commissioner deems necessary.

(b) If the leasing company meets the qualifications as listed in Section 14-15-5 of this regulation, the commissioner shall approve such application and notify the leasing company of such authorization within a reasonable time. If the application is not approved, the commissioner shall provide in writing reasons why such application is not approved.

(Effective February 4, 1992)

Sec. 14-15-5. Qualifications of leasing company

In order to be authorized to issue temporary registration transfers, a leasing company must meet the following requirements:

(a) The leasing company shall have furnished proof of financial responsibility to the commissioner in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 14-15 in the form of blanket coverage of all vehicles used in conjunction with its business. Proof of financial responsibility with respect to individual vehicles or groups of vehicles leased by the leasing company to a single lessee is not acceptable.

(b) The leasing company shall have and maintain a place of business in this state at which the business of leasing or renting vehicles without drivers is conducted during normal business hours. If such leasing company has more than one such

place of business, it shall designate one of such places for the maintenance and storage of records as required by Section 14-15-7 of this regulation, and shall inform the commissioner of such designation.

(Effective February 4, 1992)

Sec. 14-15-6. Standards for issuing temporary registration transfers

A leasing company authorized by the commissioner to issue a twenty-day transfer of a registration shall conform to the following:

(a) A transfer of registration from one leased vehicle to another leased vehicle shall be valid only if both vehicles are passenger vehicles, not including motorcycles, and if each vehicle is either a new vehicle not previously registered in this state and having a certificate of origin, or a vehicle having a certificate of title in this state without a lien holder listed thereon where such vehicle is less than ten (10) years old such that inspection is not required upon a transfer of registration;

(b) A leasing company shall use the stamp(s) as directed by the commissioner only for a transfer of registration as provided in subsection (a) of this section. Any other use of such stamp(s) shall be a violation;

(c) A leasing company which transfers a registration in accordance with this regulation shall submit to the commissioner within five (5) business days after such transfer an application for permanent registration for the vehicle transferred together with all necessary documents and any payment(s) required by law. Failure to submit documents or payment(s) within the time specified shall be a violation.

(Effective February 4, 1992)

Sec. 14-15-7. Records to be maintained

(a) An authorized leasing company shall maintain the following records at its place of business in Connecticut, or if such company has more than one place of business at a designated place of business in Connecticut, for a period of no less than three (3) years after a transfer of registration in accordance with this regulation, and for a period of at least one (1) year after the expiration of a lease of a vehicle involved in a transfer of registration in accordance with this regulation:

(1) A copy of the purchase order and the invoice issued at the time of purchase of the vehicle by the leasing company; and

(2) If not otherwise required by law, records showing vehicle make, year, model, whether purchased new or used, vehicle identification number (VIN), purchase price, any guarantees or warranties, and all documents relating to prior ownership, use, condition, registration or title.

(b) Each authorized leasing company shall maintain the records enumerated in subsection (a) of this section available for inspection by the commissioner or his representative during business hours upon written notice.

(c) Failure of an authorized leasing company to maintain such records or to make such records available for inspection shall be a violation.

(Effective February 4, 1992)

Sec. 14-15-8. Violations

(a) A leasing company which is found to have committed a violation of this regulation or a violation of any statute or regulation pertaining to its business as a leasing company shall be subject to loss of the privilege to transfer registrations for a period as determined by the commissioner after notice and a hearing in accordance with Chapter 54 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(b) A leasing company which does not renew its leasing license, or has its privilege to transfer registrations suspended, shall return its stamp(s) to the commissioner upon request.

(Effective February 4, 1992)

Sec. 14-15-9. Miscellaneous provisions. Lemon law

(a) Transfer of registration in accordance with this regulation will not be permitted for vehicles which require a duplicate title for registration thereof, or for vehicles which have been last registered outside this state.

(b) All leasing companies subject to this regulation shall comply with the provisions of Chapter 743b of the Connecticut General Statutes and all regulations thereunder which relate to return of a motor vehicle from a consumer for replacement or refund due to a nonconformity or defect. Failure of a leasing company to comply with such laws and regulations shall be a violation.

(c) Only one twenty-day temporary registration transfer shall be made with respect to any vehicle.

(Effective February 4, 1992)