



TLETS NEWSLETTER

Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System
Information Management Service
Telecommunications Section

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TEXAS SURE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY VERIFICATION PROGRAM

The Texas Financial Responsibility Verification Program (FRVP) was authorized by SB 1670 during the 79th Legislative session. The bill provides that the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI), in consultation with the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) "shall establish a program for verification of whether owners of motor vehicles have established financial responsibility."

This program will provide officers with another tool to verify if drivers have valid motor vehicle insurance. Law enforcement officers can conduct a routine license plate query that will return a verification if the vehicle or driver has valid motor vehicle insurance. All law enforcement officers will have access to this information thru legacy TLETS and Omnixx. Agencies using CAD software will need to make minor modifications that will allow access to the information.

The goal of the program is to reduce the number of uninsured driver in Texas.

How the FRVP Works

On a weekly basis, the contracted vendor receives the following updates:

- The database of registered vehicles maintained by TxDOT
- The driver license database maintained by DPS
- Self-insured vehicles from DPS
- Private passenger auto liability policy information from each insurer actively writing private passenger auto insurance policies in Texas
- **Some** Commercial auto liability policy information (voluntarily being provided)

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The contracted vendor uses a proprietary matching program to link the registered vehicles and insurance policies together. DPS, local law enforcement personnel, and county tax assessor-collectors will be able to obtain insurance information on a given vehicle.

Law Enforcement may access the information using TLETS forms: REG, RSDW, Master Query, RQ (In the future, when the new Driver License is implemented, DL and DQ may also provide the information).

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There are four possible responses to an inquiry submitted to the FRVP database.

- Confirmed
- Unconfirmed
- Verify Manually
- Multiple

Confirmed- The "Confirmed" response indicates the vehicle and/or person have been identified in the database and vehicle coverage has been found.

Unconfirmed- The "Unconfirmed" response indicates the vehicle and/or person was located in the database, however, insurance coverage could not be confirmed. A detail field is provided that will identify the reason for the Unconfirmed response. The detail responses will be one of the following:

- Vehicle coverage expired
- No vehicle coverage found
- Vehicle last match not within 45 days**
- Vehicle coverage expired; Vehicle last match not within 45 days**
- Vehicle coverage expiration unknown; Vehicle last match not within 45 days**

*** Note: "Vehicle last match not within 45 days" indicates the insurance company has not reported insurance for the vehicle and/or person in the past 45 days. This could be the vehicle and/or person is no longer insured or they have changed companies and the new company has not reported insurance for them.*

Verify Manually - The "Verify Manually" response does not indicate that the individual is uninsured. "Verify Manually" indicates one of the following conditions exist:

- VIN and/or plate are incorrect and cannot be located in the database
- Vehicle's registration has been expired for over 18 months
- Vehicle was recently purchased
- Plates were recently changed

Multiple- The "Multiple" response indicates the VIN and/or plate has a duplicate within the TXDOT database. This does not necessarily indicate the vehicle is not insured.

Additional Information:

1. At this time, the driver license information is not included in the FRVP database. DPS is currently in the process of initiating a new driver license system (NDLS). Once NDLS has been established, the FRVP database will be updated and the insurance information will be available on a query by driver license number and/or name and date of birth.
2. The information provided by the FRVP database does not give law enforcement the authority to stop an individual for probable cause. The database can only be used as a tool to verify insurance once a stop has taken place.
3. A response of "Unconfirmed," "Verify Manually", or "Multiple" from the database does not provide authority to impound the vehicle based on the Texas Transportation Code.

*** Under Texas Transportation Code, Subchapter I, Section 601.261 "On a second or subsequent conviction for an offense under Section 601.191, the court shall order the sheriff of the county in which the court has jurisdiction to impound the motor vehicle operated by the defendant at the time of the offense if the defendant: was an owner of the motor vehicle at the time of the offense: and is an owner on the date of the conviction."*

4. Self-insured individuals and companies are not required to participate in the FRVP at this time. DPS does submit the self-insured information received weekly. Law enforcement officers should continue to accept the self insurance certificate issued by DPS as proof of insurance.

5. Because trailers are not self-propelled, trailers are not considered a motor vehicle; therefore, trailer information is not reported to the database. Responses to inquiries on trailers will be "Verify Manually."
6. Insurance companies are not required to report passenger vehicles insured on a commercial auto policy; however, some companies do report these policies voluntary. Therefore, passenger autos insured under a commercial auto policy will generally not be confirmed through the system.
7. It is up to the local law enforcement agency to establish policies and procedures regarding information obtained from the FRVP database. Because local policies and statutes may vary substantially, it would be inappropriate for DPS to publish policies for the local agency.

DPS is currently conducting a pilot program in three sergeant areas in Austin, Travis County. The Pilot Program will run for 60 days. After successful completion of the pilot, the FRVP will be available statewide. Notifications regarding the deployment date as well as the availability of the interface specifications will be sent in the TLETS ABP summary and the TCIC2000 Listserv. If you need to join the TCIC2000 Listserv, notify Pam Pierce, pam.pierce@txdps.state.tx.us 512-424-2898. Instructions for accessing the website will accompany the notification.

General information is available from www.texassure.com

By law, the information provided by the database is to be used by law enforcement strictly as a tool to help identify if a driver is insured or uninsured. This information must not be used for any other law enforcement/investigative purpose.

[Unidentified Persons & DNA Unit](#)

In September 2007, the Unidentified Persons & DNA Unit was created as part of the Department of Public Safety's Criminal Law Enforcement Division, Bureau of Information Analysis (BIA). The mission of the unit is to assist Texas law enforcement in their mandatory requirement to enter all available information regarding an unidentified deceased/living person into the state clearinghouse and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Unidentified Person File—including identifying features, dental records, fingerprints, any unusual physical characteristics, and a description of clothing or personal belongings found on or with the body. Information is legislatively required to be entered no later than the 10th working day after the date of death is reported to the agency.

The Unidentified Persons & DNA Unit, along with the Missing Persons Clearinghouse, works closely with the University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNTHSC) DNA Identity Lab to help link Texas missing persons to unidentified human remains. The Unidentified Persons & DNA Unit assists law enforcement agencies, medical examiners, and coroners throughout the state by coordinating the collection of DNA samples from unidentified human remains for entry into the UNTHSC DNA database. There is **no fee** to law enforcement for obtaining DNA sample collection kits or for processing, analyzing, and/or comparing DNA family reference samples or DNA samples from unidentified human remains.

For assistance regarding an unidentified person investigation or an unsolved homicide, or to obtain a DNA sample collection kit, contact the Texas DPS Unidentified Persons & DNA Unit at (512) 424-5074 or 1-800-346-3243.

METAL THEFT UPDATE

On September 1, 2007, the following amendments to Chapter 1956, Occupations Code, Metal Recycling Entities went into effect:

All weights of "Regulated Material" and "Regulated Metal" must be reported, no later than the seventh day after the date of purchase, to the Texas Department of Public Safety. A valid US driver license, a valid US identification card, and a US military card are the only forms of ID that are acceptable from the seller. The seller must also provide to the "Metal Entity" the make, model, and license plate number of the motor vehicle used to transport the

regulated material. At any time, a peace officer may request records from the "Metal Entity" without prior notice. The "Metal Entity" shall maintain three years of records on hand at all times.

Effective April 1, 2008, the Texas Department of Public Safety shall establish a statewide electronic reporting system to track the sale of regulated metal. "Metal Entities" will be required to submit all transactions electronically instead of through the mail or by fax. A person may not act as a "Metal Entity," or represent to the public that the person is a "Metal Entity," unless the person is registered and licensed with the state. The Department shall issue a certificate of registration to a "Metal Entity" that has applied and paid a registration fee. Continued on page 4

NOTE: Information regarding how to access the web site for electronic reporting and how to apply for registration has not yet been released. Continued on page 4.

For questions regarding the amendment as it pertains to law enforcement compliance, please contact Victoria Sungino with the Bureau of Information Analysis, Criminal Law Enforcement Division, at (512) 424-5271.

BIA offers "all-crimes" analytical approach

The Bureau of Information Analysis (BIA) assists DPS and other law enforcement agencies with investigations regarding terrorism, drugs, gangs, sex offenders, fugitives and other major felony offenses.

BIA, which is part of the Criminal Law Enforcement Division, merged the Department's crime analysts into one unit in September 2007. Led by Commander **J. Patrick O'Burke**, the BIA includes 12 commissioned officers and 130 analysts from the Texas Rangers, the Driver License Division, the Criminal Intelligence Service, the Motor Vehicle Theft Service and the Narcotics Service.

BIA includes the Texas Intelligence Center, which provides 24/7 tactical support to law enforcement and a telephone tip line for the public; the Post-Seizure Analysis Team, which analyzes information from contraband and currency seizures; the Unidentified Persons & DNA Unit, which assists with cases involving homicide and unidentified bodies; and the Missing Persons Clearinghouse, which assists with missing persons cases and coordinates the statewide Amber and Silver Alert programs.

BIA tactical analysts perform database searches and phone analyses, make flow charts and provide other types of investigative leads. BIA strategic analysts conduct in-depth research on suspect groups, persons of interest or criminal activity to help direct law enforcement resources toward effectively combating crime and terrorism.

Driver License Image Retrieval



The Driver License Image Retrieval (DLIR) system assists law enforcement agencies by making it possible to view the latest digital driver license image of a Texas driver, via the internet, in support of a law enforcement investigation. The DLIR system is offered to federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, at no charge. Users of the DLIR system can retrieve a driver license image by the driver license number or the user can search by last name and physical identifiers. Each agency obtains access to the DLIR system by submitting a User Agreement for the agency and an Image Retrieval Security Request form for each commissioned officer or investigative support person that will utilize the system. Please contact the Driver License Image Retrieval Administrator at (512) 424-5755 to set up an account.

<https://www.texasonline.state.tx.us/NASApp/txdps/DPSImageManager>

TRAINING CALENDAR

2008 SCHEDULE

Conroe
July 14-18, 2008 Region – 2

Pharr
August 11-15, 2008 Region – 8

Abilene
September 22-27, 2008 Region – 4

Lubbock
October 13-17, 2008 Region – 5

Bryan
November 10-14, 2008 Region 6

Pending Region – 1
December 8-12, 2008

TLETS/NLETS Basic Procedures Course #3809
– Contact DPS Austin 512.424.2419. E-mail:
Joanne.jenkins@txdps.state.tx.us or
john.hale@txdps.state.tx.us

For those agencies that are on OMNIXX, to get to the OMNIXX Trainer go to the DPS public internet:
<https://tlets.txdps.state.tx.us/omnixx/desktop/>

Enter your User Name and Password. Once your login has been accepted, select Classes> at the right hand bottom of the screen, select All Classes. You can view all classes that are available. Double Click on the class selection to view the details of the class, such as dates, location and address. If you want to enroll, in the bottom right hand corner, select Enroll. You will then receive a confirmation of the enrollment.

TXDOT UPDATE

The Texas Department of Transportation, Vehicle Titles and Registration Division have a web site available for vehicle information for non-law enforcement use. Types of businesses may be interested include:

Auto dealers, auto auction, wrecker services, salvage yards, insurance companies, bank / credit unions, title services, collection agencies, city/county municipalities that have code enforcement, university/colleges and private investigators. This information is available 24-hours a day. For further information go to:

<https://prod1.dot.state.tx.us/cencompop.html>

NEW AGENCIES ON TLETS

BEAUMONT ISD PD	BQDZ
BURNET CONSTABLES PCT	BCCZ
FAIRFIELD PD	FFPZ
GALVESTON ISD PD	GGDZ
HUTTO PD	HTTZ
KOUNTZ PD	KZPZ
PALMHURST PD	PLMZ
SAN ANTONIO AIRPORT PD	SAIZ
WEIMER PD	WMPZ

DELETED AGENCIES

DENVER COLORADO FPS	RPDZ
EDCOUCH PD	EDPZ

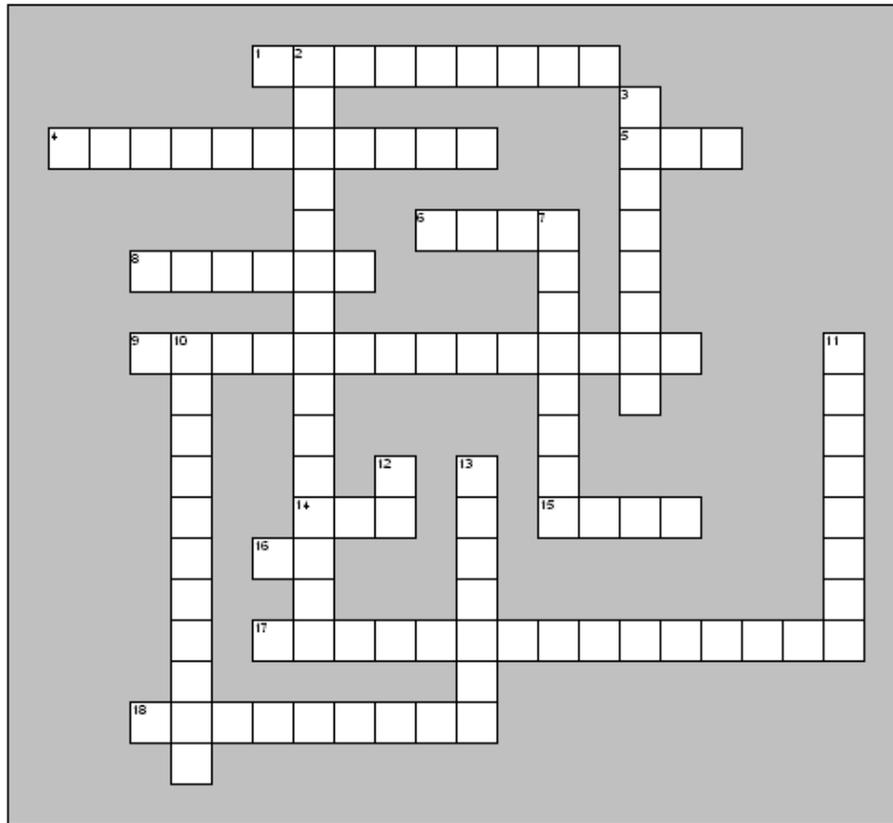
MNEMONIC CHANGES

	OLD	NEW
BALCH SPRINGS PD	BSX1	
CHANGE TO		BSX2

A new web page has been created for our TLETS users to obtain up-to-date Driver License Alarm and Administrative Codes that will be attached to a driver license records. To retrieve these documents go to:

<http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/difle> enter user name: difle, password: xm3692TL (case sensitive).

Crossword



Across

1. THE SEVENTH ITEM IN THE ORDER OF DESCRIPTION FOR PERSONS.
4. THE DPS AUSTIN TLETS NETWORK OPERATIONS CAN BE CONTACTED AT THIS TOLL FREE NUMBER TO REPORT SYSTEM/TERMINAL OUTAGES
5. TRANSACTION CODE FOR THE NLETS HELP FILE INQUIRY FORMAT.
6. THE CANADIAN POLICE INFORMATION CENTRE.
8. THESE TYPE OF TEXAS LICENSE PLATES ARE NON-EXPIRING.
9. NCIC'S TRIPLE I SYSTEM IS THE INTERSTATE _____ INDEX PROGRAM.
14. THE TRANSACTION CODE FOR THE CANADIAN STOLEN GUN INQUIRY FORM.
15. PWD AUSTIN PROVIDES INFORMATION ON THESE TYPE OF VIOLATIONS.
16. THE POINT OF ENTRY TO CHECK IF A VEHICLE HAS CROSSED THE MEXICAN-CANADIAN BORDER IN OR OUT OF THE U.S.
17. WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROPER ROUTING OF MESSAGES ON THE TLETS/NLETS NETWORK.
18. THE NUMBER OF TLETS BROADCAST MNEMONIC ADDRESSES.

Down

2. THIS TYPE OF ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGE IS USED FOR OVERDUE TRAVELERS.
3. THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES ACCESS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.
7. THIS IS DESCRIBED FROM TOP TO BOTTOM IN A PERSONS DESCRIPTION.
10. THE FIFTH ITEM IN THE TEXT OF ALL RUNAWAY MESSAGES IS THE _____ OF THE RUNAWAY IF APPREHENDED.
11. EIGHTH ITEM IN THE ORDER OF DESCRIPTION FOR A PERSONS.
12. THE TRANSACTION CODE FOR THE NLETS BOAT REGISTRATION INQUIRY
13. THE SIXTH ITEM IN THE ORDER OF DESCRIPTION FOR VEHICLES.