



TLETS NEWSLETTER

Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System
Information Management Service
Telecommunications Section

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TLETS Re-Engineering Update

TxDPS is happy to report that with the help of our TLETS membership, we have successfully converted the majority of our agencies onto the new system. However, there are a number of sites that have not converted. The published deadline of September 30, 2008 has passed and the revised deadline of December 31 is quickly approaching. It is extremely critical that all agencies make the transition onto the new TLETS system as soon as possible. It is very important that our membership understands that conversion onto TCP/IP is mandatory and that all of the remaining conversions cannot be performed in the last weeks before the revised deadline.

Besides the need to bring the TLETS system into compliance with CJIS policies, the need to move onto the new system is necessary because some connections on TLETS III are dependent on legacy equipment that is in danger of failure. If your agency is one of the agencies that have not yet converted and are ready to make the transition, please contact the TLETS Order Center at 512-424-2256 or tlets_order_center@txdps.state.tx.us to schedule your conversion date.

TEXAS BLUE ALERT PROGRAM

History

On August 18th, 2008, Governor Perry signed an Executive order implementing the "Blue Alert" Program within Texas. The "Blue Alert" Program will be a means to speed in the apprehension of violent criminals who kill or seriously wound local, state, or federal law enforcement officers.

Based on the successful AMBER Alert and Silver Alert Programs, the "Blue Alert" Program is a cooperative effort between the Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS), the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT), the Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM), broadcasters, private companies, associations, and the general public.

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Using media broadcasts and TXDOT's dynamic messaging signs, each "Blue Alert" will blanket the state with information identifying the vehicle of the suspected assailant which will hinder the violator's ability to flee the and facilitate their speedy capture, helping eliminate the threat the violator would otherwise pose to Texas communities and other law enforcement personnel.

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State Blue Alert Criteria

All four (4) of the following criteria must be met in order to activate the Network:

- A law enforcement officer must have been killed or seriously injured by an offender.
- The investigating law enforcement agency must determine that the offender poses a serious risk or threat to the public and other law enforcement personnel.
- A detailed description of the offender's vehicle, vehicle tag, or partial tag must be available for broadcast to the public.
- The investigating law enforcement agency of jurisdiction must recommend activation of the Blue Alert to the State Operations Center (Governor's Division of Emergency Management).

Contact Us

- For general information regarding the Texas Blue Alert Network, contact the Texas Department of Public Safety, Public Information Office at (512) 424-2080.
- Governor's Division of Emergency Management at www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/

TEXAS SURE 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." The goal of the program is to reduce the number of uninsured drivers in Texas. TxDPS has deployed this program as of October 1, 2008

This program will provide officers with another tool to verify if drivers have valid motor vehicle liability 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 through legacy TLETS and Omnixx. Agencies using Interface systems such as CAD, RMS, MDT, and/or MDC software will need to make minor modifications that will allow access to the information. The specifications for the formats will be posted to the TCIC website on October 1, 2008.

<http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/tcic2000project>

username: tcic2000

case sensitive password: DPSTCIC7#

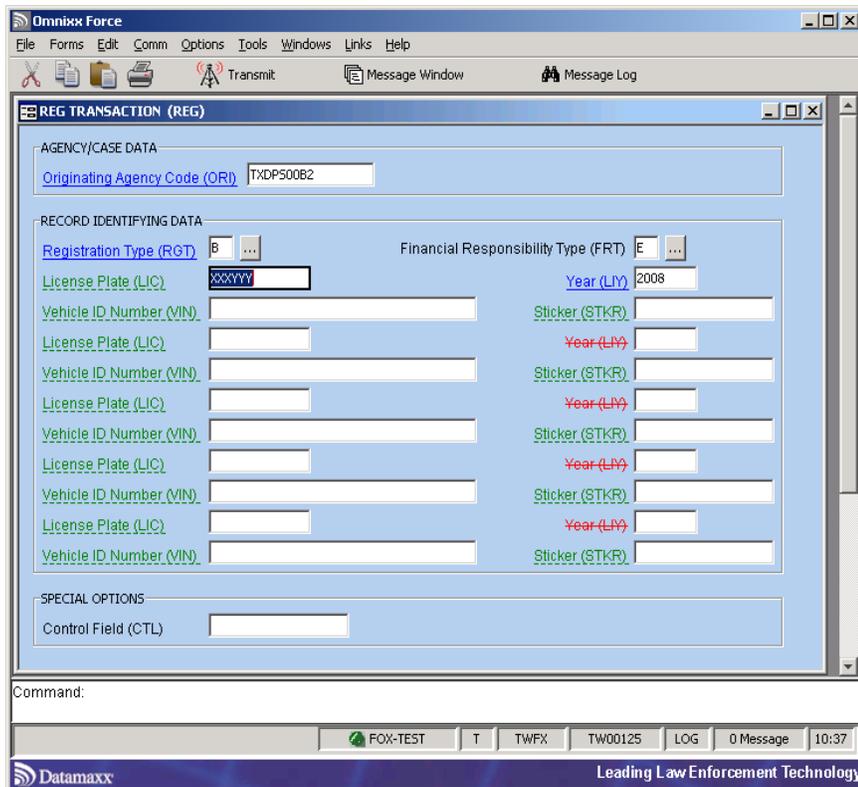
How the FRVP Works

The FRVP system receives the following updates weekly:

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

A proprietary matching program is used to link the registered vehicles and insurance policies together.

Law Enforcement may access the information from the TLETS forms (example below) that access vehicle registration information: REG, RSDW, Master Query, and RQ (when sent to TX). The forms allow the operator to choose how much information is returned in the response. Two types of returns are available, Routine and Extended.



Detailed examples of the extended responses are shown below. In most cases, the routine response displays the “top half” of the extended response and is useful for obtaining a basic status check.

Example Routine Response

```

REGARDING INQUIRY ON: ABCXXX

Insurance Status:           Confirmed
Registered To:             FIRST LAST
OLN:                       Not Available
Vehicle Registration (LIC): Not Available
Vehicle Id Number (VIN):   ABCXXVIN11111
Vehicle Make:              NISS
Vehicle Model:             QST
Vehicle Year:              2008

MRI: 7682518 IN: FRVP 1 AT 22SEP2008 08:51:29
OUT: TWFX 1 AT 22SEP2008 08:51:30

```

Responses from the FRVP system

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

1. **Confirmed-** The "Confirmed" response indicates the vehicle and/or person have been identified in the database and vehicle insurance coverage has been confirmed. The confirmed response will be returned if a match is made and the policy has not expired *or if the policy has expired within the last 14 days.*

Extended Response – “Confirmed”

```
REGARDING INQUIRY ON: ABCXXX

Insurance Status:           Confirmed
Registered To:             FIRST LAST
OLN:                       Not Available
Vehicle Registration (LIC): Not Available
Vehicle Id Number (VIN):   ABCXXXVIN11111
Vehicle Make:              TOYT
Vehicle Model:             CXL
Vehicle Year:              2001

Insurance Carrier:         State Farm Insurance
NAIC#:                     11B11
Policy ID #:               11BR111111111
Policy Type:               Personal
Policy Effective date:     20010704
Policy Expiration date:    20081120
Mileage Expiration:        Not Available

MRI: 7682521 IN: FRVP 2 AT 22SEP2008 09:13:19
OUT: TWFX 3 AT 22SEP2008 09:13:19
```

2. **Unconfirmed-** The "Unconfirmed" response indicates the vehicle was located in the database, however, insurance coverage was not confirmed. The "Additional Detail" field is provided that will identify the reason for the unconfirmed response. "Additional Detail" will be one of the following:

- o Vehicle coverage expired¹
- o No vehicle coverage found
- o Vehicle last match not within 45 days²
- o Vehicle coverage expired; Vehicle last match not within 45 days²
- o Vehicle coverage expiration unknown; Vehicle last match not within 45 days²

Extended Response – “Unconfirmed”

```
REGARDING INQUIRY ON: ABCXXX

Insurance Status:           Unconfirmed
Registered To:             FIRST LAST
OLN:                       Not Available
Vehicle Registration (LIC): Not Available
Vehicle Id Number (VIN):   ABCXXXVIN11111
Vehicle Make:              TOYT
Vehicle Model:             XSL
Vehicle Year:              2008
Additional Detail:         Vehicle Last Match not within 45 days;

Insurance Carrier:         Farmers Texas County Mutual
NAIC#:                     24392
Policy ID #:               43336473
Policy Type:               Personal
Policy Effective date:     20080120
Policy Expiration date:    20080720
Mileage Expiration:        Not Available
```

¹ The system considers vehicle coverage expired when the policy has been expired for more than 14 days.

² "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.

3. **Verify Manually** - The "Verify Manually" response does not indicate that the individual is uninsured. "Verify Manually" indicates one of the following conditions exist:
- o VIN and/or plate are incorrect and cannot be located in the database
 - o Vehicle's registration has been expired for over 18 months
 - o Vehicle was recently purchased
 - o Plates were recently changed

Routine and Extended Response – "Verify Manually"

REGARDING INQUIRY ON: XXXYYY

VERIFY MANUALLY

MRI: 7682550 IN: FRVP 4 AT 22SEP2008 10:17:32

OUT: TWFX 7 AT 22SEP2008 10:17:32

4. **Multiple**- The "Multiple" response indicates the VIN and/or plate has matched against two or more records within the TXDOT database. This does not necessarily indicate the vehicle is not insured.

Extended Response – "MULTIPLE"

REGARDING INQUIRY ON: XXXYYY

Insurance Status: Multiple

Operator/Owner:

OLN: Not Available

Vehicle Registration (LIC): Not Available

Vehicle Id Number (VIN): Not Available

Vehicle Make: Not Available

Vehicle Model: Not Available

Vehicle Year: Not Available

Insurance Carrier: Not Available

NAIC#: Not Available

Policy ID #: Not Available

Policy Type: Not Available

Policy Effective date: Not Available

Policy Expiration date: Not Available

Mileage Expiration: Not Available

MRI: 7682586 IN: FRVP 5 AT 22SEP2008 10:59:58

OUT: TWFX 14 AT 22SEP2008 10:59:58

Additional Information:

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.

1. FRVP is a tool provided to local law enforcement agencies to assist in verifying insurance. It is up to the local law enforcement agency to establish policies and procedures regarding information obtained from the FRVP database. Because local policies may vary substantially, DPS is not publishing policies for the local agencies.

2. DPS does not consider the information provided by the FRVP database in and of itself to be adequate probable cause for an officer to stop a vehicle. The database can only be used as a tool to verify insurance after a stop has taken place.
3. If the FRVP system provides a response of "Unconfirmed," "Verify Manually", or "Multiple," it does not necessarily mean that the person and/or vehicle is uninsured. The officer should verify insurance through existing methods before taking any action.
4. TxDPS is aware that some local jurisdictions have ordinances that allow vehicles to be impounded for no insurance. If the FRVP system provides a response of "Unconfirmed," "Verify Manually", or "Multiple," the officer should verify insurance through existing methods before taking any action. It should be noted that a response of "Unconfirmed," "Verify Manually", or "Multiple" from the database does not provide authority to impound the vehicle based solely on the Texas Transportation Code.³
5. Self-insured individuals and companies having commercial policies are not required to participate in the FRVP at this time. DPS provides weekly submissions of self-insured data. Law enforcement officers should continue to accept the self-insurance certificate issued by DPS as proof of insurance.
6. Responses to inquiries on trailers will be "Verify Manually." Trailers are not self-propelled and are not considered a motor vehicle; therefore, trailer information is not reported to the database.
7. Insurance companies are not required to report passenger vehicles insured on a commercial auto policy; however, some companies do report these policies voluntarily. Therefore, passenger autos insured under a commercial auto policy will generally not be confirmed through the system. The officer should use existing methods to determine if proof of insurance exists.
8. 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.
9. Drivers are still required to carry proof of insurance.
10. DPS conducted a pilot program in Travis County for a period of 60 days. It was determined that about eighteen percent (18%) of the responses required the officer to verify insurance using existing methods.

General information is available from www.texassure.com. Questions, concerns, and problems encountered before or following deployment should be delivered to tlets@txdps.state.tx.us.

³ 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."

TRAINING CALENDAR

2008 SCHEDULE

Bryan

November 10-14, 2008 Region - 6

PARIS

December 8-10, 2008 Region – 1

2009 SCHEDULE

AUSTIN

Dormitories are available
January 12-16, 2009 Region – 7

PASADENA

January 26-29, 2009 Region – 2

SCHERTZ

February 24-27, 2009 Region – 3

EL PASO

March 23-26, 2008 Region - 4

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 OMNIX, to get to the OMNIX Trainer go to the DPS public internet:

<https://tlets.txdps.state.tx.us/omnix/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

DALLAS DA	DLAZ
FARIFIELD PD	FFPZ
PARKER PD	PKPZ

DELETED AGENCIES

JACKSBORO PD	JKPZ
TYE PD	TIPZ

MNEMONIC CHANGES

FORT WORTH PD	OLD	NEW
	FWT1	FWPZ
	FWT4	FWPZ

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 driver license records. To retrieve these documents go to:

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