



Calhoun County

License & Tag Update

Barry E. Robertson
Commissioner of Licenses

Volume 1 Issue 1

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Locations and Hours



The Calhoun County License Commissioner operates locations throughout the county.

Calhoun County Administration Building
1702 Noble Street, STE 107
Anniston, AL 36201
(256) 241-2900
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday -Friday
(We are located in the old Sears building)

Piedmont Municipal Complex
(County Annex)
109 Center Avenue North
Piedmont, AL 36272
(256) 447-3560
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday
Closed 11:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. daily for lunch

Jacksonville Trooper Post (Public Safety)
1703 Pelham Road South
Jacksonville, AL 36265
(256) 435-7006
(Drivers license only, all other motor vehicle transactions must be done in Anniston or Piedmont)

Please visit our web site at
www.calhouncountyal.org



AlaTax To Find Unlicensed Businesses

(Special to *The Anniston Star*)
BY DAN WHISENHUNT
Star Staff Writer

Vendors who want to do business in Calhoun County without a Calhoun County business license should beware. AlaTax is on their trail. The Calhoun County Commission approved a contract Thursday with the tax collection agency to "discover" people doing business who have not purchased a license. AlaTax will collect 50 percent of the license fees generated from the first year of these discoveries.

Calhoun County License Commissioner Barry E. Robertson pushed for the measure as a means to generate more revenue. "AlaTax assures us that we have a tougher means to approach people to procure a business license," Robertson said.

Pete Yonce, a director of business development for AlaTax, told Robertson that AlaTax had found approximately \$169,000 in uncollected revenues in two other unspecified counties that contracted for the service. Yonce said a county the size of Calhoun could gain as much as \$676,000 over four years at minimal cost to the county for the service if the discovered businesses continue to renew their licenses. He expects many of them will.

"We look at various kinds of lists, we look at sales-tax lists as well as lists that we have purchased. We buy lists from various vendors. We have a very large database of businesses that we can cross check. That's why we can do this so much better than individual jurisdictions. We have the resources and the data," Yonce said.

People found doing business without a license will be asked to buy one and also to buy a state license if they do not already have one. Certain state licenses also generate money for the county, Robertson said.

Calhoun County is one of the few counties in Alabama that require a county wide business license, but obtaining one is fairly inexpensive. It can cost between \$10 and \$100, based on gross receipts. In the fiscal year 2005, Calhoun County collected \$184,379 from County business licenses and \$87,199 from the state licenses.

Robertson said the license commission has issued about 6,000 licenses, but he said some vendors are hard to track. "We have 'transient' vendors who pop in and out of the county," he said.

The minimum license fee for transient vendors is \$31. Robertson and license inspector Steve Johnson said they want AlaTax to focus on businesses based outside the county and outside the state who are doing business within the county. They also want to focus on people who are setting up shop in front of other businesses or selling merchandise from their vehicles.

New Tag Choices Available October 2 for Vintage Vehicle Owners

(Alabama Department of Revenue News Release)

Montgomery-Collectors who have antique or vintage vehicles will soon have the option of choosing some new "old" tag designs available to them.

"Collectors can choose to register their vintage vehicles with original license plates beginning this October. Legislation passed earlier this year allows collectors to choose either a permanent Vintage Vehicle plate, or they can opt to register their vehicles with original Alabama license plates issued prior to 1977.

Permanent vintage vehicle license plates, available since October 1996, are provided by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Original vehicle license plates are provided by the owner and approved by the local license plate issuing official. Both plates are permanent plates and have a one-time state registration fee of \$10, plus a county issuance fee. Some counties have local registration fees that may apply. Original license plates may be used to register automobiles, motorcycles, fire trucks, or truck tractors with gross vehicle weights not exceeding 26,000 pounds. It is the responsibility of the collector to acquire the original license plate and to verify that it is the appropriate year and tag type for the vehicle that will display it. If approved by the local tag issuing official of the county where the vehicle is registered, a vintage vehicle decal will be issued to the owner for placement on the tag. "The original license plate may be restored or painted, but must be restored to the original plate series." Owners who currently have a Vintage Vehicle license plate, but wish to register their vehicle with an original license plate, must turn in their Vintage Vehicle tag, pay state registration and county issuance fees, and present their original license plate to the county tag issuing official for approval. During the 2005 registration year, over 3700 vehicles were registered as antique vehicles.

Alabama unveils 'God Bless America' Tag

Prattville, Ala. (AP) Starting Oct. 2, Alabama motorists will have a choice in the standard license plate: the "Stars Fell on Alabama" or the new "God Bless America" tag.

The new tag, designed by the state Revenue Department, features a waving American flag in the background and "God Bless America" across the bottom. State Rep, Steve Hurst, D-Munford, came up with the idea for the tag and got the Legislature to approve it with bipartisan support in April. He said it was intended to unify the state.

Beginning Oct. 2, motorists seeking a new tag at their county tag office can purchase either the "Stars Fell on Alabama" tag or the "God Bless America" tag for the same price. If someone wants to trade their "Stars Fell on Alabama" tag for one of the new tags, the motorist will have to pay the county's issuance fee, which is \$1.25 in Calhoun County and surrender their old plate. There is one major difference between the two tags. The "God Bless America" tag can't be personalized like the "Stars Fell on Alabama" tag. Alabama currently has 3.8 million cars and pickup trucks with the standard "Stars Fell on Alabama" tag. The tag isn't the first in Alabama to carry the words "God Bless America." The specialty tag created for former prisoners of war in 1980 bears those words, but is not available to the general public.

Several states, including Texas, Missouri, Mississippi and Iowa, already have "God Bless America" tags available to the general public, but they are specialty tags that require an extra payment-much like Alabama's university tags do.



<http://>

Renew Online



Calhoun County residents currently have the ability to renew their tags online with the use of a credit card. However, beginning October 1, 2006 residents may renew their tags with a credit card, check, or debit card. The new system, developed by IMS Enterprises offers more advanced features for renewing your tags online. The system itself is called RENEWYOURTAG.COM. an online tag and business license renewal service that allow customers to renew quickly and easily. All transactions are extremely secure and protected using 256 bit encryption. The internet fee for renewing is \$3.50 for a purchase up to \$199.99. Any tag purchase of \$200.00 or more will be charged 3 percent of the total cost.

In addition to tag purchases, beginning October 2007, residents will also be able to renew boat licenses, business licenses, and manufactured home licenses online.

The Commissioner of Licenses Office is proud to be able to provide additional services to the citizens of Calhoun County and hope to be able to update such services annually. In order to renew your tag online, please go to www.calhouncounty.org.

How Long To Register?

I am a State of Alabama resident and I just acquired a vehicle. How many days do I have to Title and register this vehicle?

Alabama law provides that any person acquiring a new or used motor vehicle shall within 20 calendar days from the date of acquisition, obtain a license plate. In order to register a vehicle subject to the Alabama title law, a title application must be completed before a registration can be processed.