



August 15, 2019

## **Registration and Title Bulletin # 003-19 Policy and Procedure**

**TO:** All County Tax Assessor-Collectors and Licensed Motor Vehicle Dealers

**SUBJECT:** **Notification of a Communication Impediment**

### **PURPOSE**

To provide information on applying an indicator to a motor vehicle record that will inform law enforcement the vehicle operator may have a condition that impedes communication.

### **DETAILS**

Senate Bill 976, enacted by the 86<sup>th</sup> Legislature, adds Transportation Code, Section 502.061, allowing an applicant to voluntarily indicate at the time of initial registration or registration renewal that they have a health condition or disability that may impede effective communication with law enforcement.

We are providing the *Certification of a Communication Impediment* (Form VTR-216), to facilitate an applicant requesting the communication impediment indicator be added to their motor vehicle record. Form VTR-216 must be completed by a licensed physician if the applicant has a physical health condition or a licensed physician, licensed psychologist, or a non-physician mental health professional if the applicant has a mental health condition.

At the time of initial registration, an applicant choosing to participate must mark the applicable checkbox on the *Application for Texas Title and/or Registration* (Form 130-U) and submit Form VTR-216. Form 130-U will be updated with the communication impediment checkbox and made available after the current stock of forms is depleted. Until then, the customer will only need to provide Form VTR-216 at the time of initial registration.

At the time of registration renewal, an applicant choosing to participate must submit Form VTR-216. The *Registration Renewal Notice* (Form VTR-39-A) will be updated to include information on providing notification of a communication impediment. The information will not appear immediately on Form VTR-39-A since registration renewal notices are printed 90 days in advance of an applicant's registration expiring.

At any time, an applicant may verbally inform the county tax assessor-collector they wish to remove the indicator for a communication impediment. Additionally, removal of the indicator can occur at time of renewal through the Modify - Registration Correction event in RTS. The communication impediment indicator will be automatically reset upon transfer of title.

The Registration and Title System (RTS) will be updated with Release 9.4 to allow counties to add a communication impediment indicator to a vehicle record. RTS will retain and display this indicator for law enforcement purposes only.

**COUNTY ACTION**

Please review the attached Form VTR-216.

When presented with a properly completed Form VTR-216 at the time of initial registration, select the “Communication Impediment” checkbox on the Title Additional Info TTL008 screen.

When presented with a properly completed Form VTR-216 at the time of registration renewal, select the “Communication Impediment” checkbox on the Registration Additional Info REG039 screen.

After verifying the certification and selecting the “Communication Impediment” checkbox, complete the transaction and return Form VTR-216 to the applicant.

**CONTACT**

If you have any questions, please contact your local Texas Department of Motor Vehicles Regional Service Center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeremiah Kuntz", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeremiah Kuntz, Director  
Vehicle Titles and Registration Division

JK:TT:EG

Attachments