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Subject: FW: SCDMV E-Release - Driver Suspension Eligibility Week

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Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 9:57:29 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: DMV Communications
Subject: SCDMV E-Release - Driver Suspension Eligibility Week

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SCDMV HOSTS DRIVER SUSPENSION ELIGIBILITY WEEK

Blythewood, S.C. – January 22, 2015 - The South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) announced today the upcoming Driver Suspension Eligibility Week for drivers with certain license suspensions. Driver Suspension Eligibility Week will be held March 14-18, 2016 in all DMV offices across the state.

During Driver Suspension Eligibility Week, South Carolina drivers who have lost their driving privileges for suspensions included in the program may be able to reduce or clear the remaining time of their suspensions. The program will assist the following types of suspended drivers:

- Underage drivers suspended for excessive points.

- Drivers suspended for operating an unlicensed taxi or vehicle.

- Drivers suspended for operating an uninsured vehicle that they did not own.

- Drivers suspended for operating or allowing operation of an uninsured vehicle.

- Drivers suspended for driving under suspension, excluding alcohol or drug related convictions.

To qualify for the program, drivers must meet all of the conditions of their suspensions. All fees must be paid and cannot be waived. If required, Form SR-22 (Certificate of Insurance) must also be filed. If a driver has more than one suspension, the DMV will recalculate the suspension time. Drivers with suspensions not covered by the program will still need to serve those suspensions.

Only drivers who clear all suspensions may apply for driver's licenses. Depending on the type of suspensions, they may be required to take the vision, knowledge and road skills tests before getting new driver's licenses. During Driver Suspension Eligibility Week, many DMV offices may experience a longer wait time due to the increased number of customers.

"This program can help many drivers reduce their suspension time," said Acting Executive Director John Laganelli. "If you fall into one of these categories, we encourage you to be proactive and start getting ready now. The sooner you find out exactly what you need, the better your chances of meeting every requirement."

DMV offices are open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Offices are open on Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Allendale office is open Tuesdays and Thursdays only.

For more information, visit the SCDMV Web site at www.scdmvonline.com.

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SCDMV Driver Suspension Eligibility Week 2016

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is Driver Suspension Eligibility Week?

Driver Suspension Eligibility Week is one week each year when drivers who have lost their driving privileges for certain suspensions can apply to reduce or clear the remaining time for their suspension. No fees will be waived.

2. Why is DMV offering Driver Suspension Eligibility Week?

South Carolina Code of Laws Section 56-1-396 requires DMV to establish a driver's license suspension eligibility period every year.

3. When will DMV offer Driver Suspension Eligibility Week?

This year, DMV will offer Driver Suspension Eligibility Week March 14-18, 2016.

4. Does my suspension qualify?

The program will assist the following types of suspended drivers:

Underage drivers suspended for excessive points

Those suspended for operating an unlicensed taxi or vehicle

Drivers suspended for operating an uninsured vehicle that they did not own

Those suspended for operating or allowing operation of an uninsured vehicle

Drivers suspended for driving under suspension, excluding alcohol or drug related convictions.

5. What else do I need to do to qualify?

To qualify for the program, drivers must meet all of the conditions of their suspensions. All fees must be paid and SR-22 (Certificate of Insurance) must be filed, if required. Drivers with suspensions not covered by the program will still need to serve those suspensions.

6. What if I have more than one suspension?

If a driver has more than one suspension, DMV will recalculate the suspension time.

7. Do I have to get SR-22 (Certificate of Insurance) if I have one or more suspensions that aren't included in the program?

If SR-22 (Certificate of Insurance) is a requirement, you will not have to get it until all of your suspensions are complete.

8. Will I have to take the knowledge or road skills test to get my license back?

If your suspension requires retesting or your license has been expired for more than nine months, you will have to take the vision, knowledge and road skills tests.

9. Can I go to any office to apply?

DMV will accept applications for Driver Suspension Eligibility Week at all DMV offices Monday through Friday, March 14-18, 2016. The Abbeville DMV office is open only on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

10. What are DMV office hours?

All offices are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. except on Wednesday when all offices are closed for training from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

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