

PROVINCIAL NOTICE

[No. 52 of 2002]

NATIONAL ROAD TRAFFIC ACT, 1996 (ACT NO. 93 OF 1996)

PERSONALISED LICENCE NUMBER SYSTEM AND CONDITIONS DETERMINED UNDER REGULATION 28 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

Under regulation 28, regulation 28A and regulation 29(2) of the Road Traffic Regulations, 2000, issued in terms of the National Road Traffic Act, 1996 (Act No. 93 of 1996), I, SMA Malebo, Member of the Executive Council responsible for road traffic in the Province, hereby determine the personalised licence number system of the Free State, the conditions subject to which a personalised licence number is issued to a person, as well as matters connected therewith.

Definitions

1. In these conditions, any expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the National Road Traffic Act, 1996 (Act No. 93 of 1996) and the Road Traffic Regulations, 2000, shall, when used in this notice, have the meaning thus assigned, unless the context indicates otherwise, and –

“number” means a personalised licence number issued in terms of regulation 28 or regulation 29(2) of the Regulations;

“number certificate” means a certificate issued by the Free State Provincial Government to a person who successfully applied for a number, and which contains the number applied for;

“number plate validation label” means the self-adhesive label that will self-destruct when removed on which the licence number is displayed with security features for vehicle identification purposes;

“Province” means the Free State Province;

“Regulations” means the National Road Traffic Regulations, published in Government Notice R225 of 17 March 2000, as amended; and

“user” means the person to whom a number is issued.

Determination of personalised licence number system

2. (1) A personalised licence number issued to any motor vehicle licenced in the Free State Province, must consist of –
 - (a) at least one, but not more than six letters, followed by the letters FS; or

- (b) a combination of a maximum of six letters and figures, followed by the letters FS.
- (2) The first six characters of a personalised licence number must not consist of a combination of characters that occur in the general licence number system, the motor dealer number system, the temporary or special permit number system of the Free State Province or be offensive of nature to any person or group of persons in the community.

Appearance of personalised number plates

3. A number plate displaying a personalised number as contemplated in paragraph 2 above, must display, in all instances, dark green letters and figures on a white retro-reflective surface with a landscape as set out in Schedules 1 and 2.

Number certificate does not transfer ownership

4. The issuance of a number certificate to a user does not mean that the ownership of that number is transferred to the user, but the user may apply for the allocation of such number to a motor vehicle of which he or she is the owner.

Allocation of a number

5. (1) A number may be allocated to a motor vehicle –
- (a) of which the owner is the person or body to whom a number certificate has been issued; and
 - (b) which is licensed in the Province.
- (2) The user must apply for the allocation of the number to his or her motor vehicle, and for the licensing of that motor vehicle, within 21 days from the date of issuance of the number certificate.
- (3) The application referred to in subparagraph (2) must be accompanied by the number certificate, acceptable identification, the prescribed fees and the *pro rata* motor vehicle licence fees.
- (4) The licence and licence disc of a motor vehicle to which a number was allocated, becomes *null and void* upon such allocation and liability for licensing of the motor vehicle arises simultaneously with such allocation.
- (5) If the user does not apply for the allocation of the number to his or her motor vehicle and does not licence that motor vehicle within the period referred to in subparagraph (2), any monies paid concerning the issuance and allocation of the number will be forfeited and the number will revert to the Province.

Death of user

6. (1) In the event of the death of the user of a number, and if ownership of the vehicle to which the number was allocated is transferred to the spouse, the spouse may apply for that number on form PRN1-FS prescribed in Schedule 3.
- (2) The application of the spouse contemplated in subparagraph (1) must be accompanied by –
- (a) the number certificate;
 - (b) acceptable identification;
 - (c) a copy of the death certificate; and
 - (d) a letter from the executor confirming that ownership is transferred to the spouse.
- (3) No fee is payable for the application contemplated in subparagraph (1) and for the allocation of such a number to a motor vehicle of the spouse.
- (4) In the event of the death of a user, where there is no surviving spouse or where the surviving spouse does not make application as contemplated in subparagraph (1), the number will revert to the Province and the user and his or her successors, shall not be reimbursed for any monies paid.

Surrender of a number

7. The user may surrender a number to the Province, in which event the number will revert to the Province and the user shall not be reimbursed for any monies paid.

Stolen motor vehicles

8. (1) If the South African Police Service records a motor vehicle to which a number was allocated as stolen, such number shall not be allocated to another motor vehicle for five years from the date of such recording.
- (2) If the stolen motor vehicle is found within the five years period, the user may continue the use of the number in respect to the motor vehicle concerned if –
- (a) the South African Police Service confirms in writing that their records no longer reflects the vehicle as stolen; and
 - (b) the user undertakes not to hold the Province liable for loss or damage that may occur due to the continued use of the number.

- (3) After the five year period referred to in subparagraph (1) has lapsed, the user may apply for the allocation of the number to another motor vehicle if he or she undertakes not to hold the Province liable for loss or damage that may occur due to the continued use of the number.

Transfer of number between motor vehicles of the same user

9. (1) Subject to paragraph 6, the user may not transfer a number to another person or body.
- (2) The user must apply in terms of regulation 29(2) of the Regulations for the transfer of a number to another motor vehicle of which he or she is the owner.

Retention of number

10. (1) If the user of a number intends to sell a motor vehicle to which that number was allocated, but wishes to retain the use of the number, he or she must –
 - (a) apply in terms of regulation 29(2) of the Regulations for the change of the number of the vehicle to be sold;
 - (b) request a duplicate number certificate, and submit the original number certificate to the Province to be defaced; and
 - (c) apply for the allocation of the number to a motor vehicle and licence that vehicle within 21 days from the date of the issuance of the duplicate number certificate.
- (2) If the user does not apply for the allocation of the number and does not licence the vehicle concerned within the period referred to in paragraph 10(1)(c), the monies paid will be forfeited and the number will revert to the Province.

Deregistration of a motor vehicle to which a number was allocated

11. If a motor vehicle to which a number was allocated is deregistered, the register of motor vehicles must reflect that the number is no longer allocated to such vehicle and the user must apply for the allocation of the number to another vehicle of which he or she is the owner or surrender the number.

Change of provincial authority

12. In the event of the user of a number relocating to another province, which would involve a change of registering authority in respect to the motor vehicle to which the number was allocated, the number will revert to the Province and the user shall not be reimbursed for any monies paid.

Application for a duplicate number certificate

13. An application for a duplicate number certificate shall be made to the Province on form PRN1-FS prescribed in Schedule 3 and on form DCT of the Regulations, and shall be accompanied by –
- (a) acceptable identification of the user and if the user is an organization, that of its proxy and a letter of appointment of proxy; and
 - (b) the prescribed fee for the duplicate certificate.

Forfeited or surrendered numbers

14. If a number reverts back to the Province, the user shall submit the number plate reflecting such number to the Province, and the user shall not be reimbursed for any monies paid.

Damaged or lost number plates reflecting a personalised licence number

15. (1) Whenever a number plate reflecting a personalised licence number is lost, destroyed or damaged to such an extent that replacement is required, or needs to be replaced as contemplated in paragraph 20, the user of such number must apply in writing to the Province to replace such number plate.
- (2) The application referred to in paragraph (1) must be accompanied by –
- (a) the acceptable identification of the user;
 - (b) the remains of the damaged number plate, if any;
 - (c) the prescribed fee for the replacement of the number plate; and
 - (d) a declaration stating the reason for the request for replacement.

Display of a number and the number plate validation label

16. (1) After licensing the motor vehicle, the user must –
- (a) display the number on the motor vehicle concerned in the manner prescribed in the Regulations; and
 - (b) affix the number plate validation label as from 10 April 2002, inside the rear window on the lower left hand corner of the window, or if the motor vehicle does not have a rear window, or if the rear window is not transparent, the number plate validation label must be displayed in the manner prescribed in the Regulations for the display of a licence disc.
- (2) A number plate validation label shall be valid for a period of two years from date of issue thereof.

Substitution of number plate validation labels

17. The owner to whom the number plate validation label is issued must, in the instance where the number plate validation label is stolen, lost or damaged, apply at the registration authority concerned for a duplicate number plate validation label.
18. The application referred to in paragraph 17 must be accompanied by –
- (a) the prescribed fees;
 - (b) an sworn statement signed by a commissioner of oath, which contains the circumstances and information under which the label has been stolen, lost or damaged; and
 - (c) in the case where the number plate validation label was stolen, the relevant occurrence book number, issued by the South African Police Service.

Type of number plate and period of validity

19. Personalised numbers may only be displayed on metal plates complying with SABS 1116: Part 2 (metal) by motor vehicles licensed in the Province.
20. A number plate shall have a validity period of five years, which period shall end on 31 December of the year indicated underneath the cheetah on the number plate, as set out in Schedule 2, after which the owner of such motor vehicle must replace such plate.

Implementation date

21. This notice shall take effect on 10 April 2002.

SCHEDULE 1

PERSONALISED NUMBER PLATE

The background shall be printed under the top coat of the retro-reflective surface with translucent ink and shall be -

- (a) a cheetah in the colour brown 0760 with black spots, 50 mm high and 84 mm wide;
- (b) sky in the colour blue 0460;
- (c) mountain range in the colour brown 0760 with black rock reeves; and
- (d) rolling hills in green 0660,

which shall be depicted as follows:

SCHEDULE 2

1. The letter type used for the number shall be FE modified 75mm as prescribed in the standard specifications of the South African Bureau of Standards, SABS 1116: Retro-reflective Registration Plates for Motor Vehicles, Part 2.
2. The number plate shall incorporate a set of positive identification images that forms an integral part of the plate and that must be visible from an angle of between 25 to 35 degrees to a person holding such plate at arms length and tilting it to such angle.
3. The positive identification image shall not be visible at any other angle and shall not interfere with the legibility of the number plate.
4. The positive identification images shall identify the manufacturer of the number plate by means of letters or symbols, as well as the Province by way of the letters "FS" inside a 12 mm circle interspersed throughout the sheeting.
5. The expiry date of the number plate shall be in the form of decal applied to the number plate. The decal shall have a green background with white retro-reflective figures, 10 mm in height, showing a date 5 years forward from the date of manufacture.