



State of South Carolina

Department of Motor Vehicles

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 1, 2007

Contact: Beth Parks
803-896-8198
beth.parks@scdmv.net

NEW COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSING PROCEDURES

Blythewood, SC - The South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles (SCDMV) announced today new licensing procedures for commercial drivers in South Carolina. Beginning June 5, 2007, applicants applying for a commercial driver credential of any type must provide information regarding any previous out-of-state drivers' licenses. These transactions include the following:

- Obtaining a beginner's permit,
- Transferring an out-of-state commercial license to South Carolina,
- Moving from a beginner's permit to a first-time commercial license,
- Renewing a commercial license or permit, and
- Upgrading or downgrading a commercial license class or endorsement.

The new procedure is part of the federal Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act (MCSIA), which is designed to reduce the number of truck accidents by strengthening enforcement and improving the commercial driver's license program. SCDMV will contact out-of-state licensing jurisdictions to obtain information regarding all motor vehicle traffic violations committed by individual commercial drivers during the past 10 years. Any unresolved or disqualifying offenses may result in the suspension or revocation of the South Carolina commercial driver's license.

"Commercial drivers with a clean driver record probably will not notice the procedure," said SCDMV Executive Director Marcia Adams. "This process will ensure that all commercial drivers have a complete driver history."

The Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act also includes five new offenses in the list of disqualifying violations:

- driving a commercial vehicle with a revoked, suspended or canceled commercial driver's license,
- causing a fatality through the negligent or criminal operation of a commercial motor vehicle,
- driving a commercial motor vehicle without obtaining a commercial driver's license,
- driving a commercial motor vehicle without a commercial driver's license in possession, and
- driving without a required endorsement.

For more information regarding the new commercial licensing procedures, customers may visit the SCDMV Web site at www.scdmvonline.com.

#####