

HB

278

ALASKA STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Interim Address:


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FAX# (907)-465-3258
State Capitol
Room 204**

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN COGHILL

Memorandum

Date: Monday, May 5, 2003
To: Representative Peggy Wilson
From: Representative John Coghill 
Re: HB 278

I am requesting that House Bill 278 "An Act relating to a Masonic lodge license plate" be scheduled for hearing at your earliest convenience.

A sponsor Substitute of this will be read across the House Floor tomorrow. As requested by the new director of DMV, we are changing the one time fee for the license plate to \$100.00. It is the hope of DMV to standardized the fee for vanity plates in the next year or two.

Attached is back up information for committee members.

Thank you.

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REPRESENTATIVE JOHN COGHILL

Sponsor Statement – Masonic License Plate

Alaska Statutes currently provide for twenty-one specialty license plates including charitable exempt plates for charitable or non-profit organizations, Alaska Native Tribal Village Councils, and church or religious organizations; veteran's plates for Pearl Harbor Survivors, Purple Heart recipients, and veterans who served in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine, Navy, and National Guard; ex-Prisoners Of War; amateur radio/call sign plates; Children's Trust plates; disability plates; disabled veteran plates; farm vehicle plates; historic vehicle; prisoner of war plates; University plates; and vanity plates. "Dog Mushing" and "Support of the Arts" have been approved by statute, but have not implemented.

HB proposes that an owner of a motor vehicle who is a member of a Masonic lodge may apply to receive a special license plate that identifies the vehicle as registered to a member of the Masonic lodge. The individual would pay \$100.00 above the normal registration cost to obtain the plates and the excess of the fee over the cost of issuing the special license will be appropriated to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

The policy call here is should the State of Alaska issue special license plates to non-profit, fraternal organizations? I say if they are willing to pay for the service, it's okay.

23-LS1008VD
Ford
5/5/03

**SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 278
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

BY REPRESENTATIVE COGHILL

**Introduced:
Referred:**

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to a masonic lodge license plate."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 *** Section 1.** AS 28.10.181 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

4 (w) Special request masonic lodge plates. The commissioner, after consulting
5 with the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masters of Alaska, shall design a
6 registration plate that identifies the vehicles as registered to a member of a masonic
7 lodge. Upon application by the owner of a passenger vehicle, noncommercial van or
8 pick-up truck, or motor home who is a member of a masonic lodge, the department
9 may issue registration plates that identify the vehicle as registered to a member of a
10 masonic lodge. The department may disapprove the issuance of registration plates
11 under this subsection when the requested plates are a duplication of an existing
12 registration.

13 *** Sec. 2.** AS 28.10.421(d) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

14 (16) special request masonic lodge plates \$100
15 plus the fee required for that vehicle under (b)(1) or (2) of this section; the fee required

1 by this paragraph shall be collected only on the first issuance and on the replacement
2 of special request masonic lodge plates; the commissioner of administration shall
3 separately account for the fees received under this paragraph that the department
4 deposits in the general fund; notwithstanding (g) of this section, the annual estimated
5 balance in the account that is in excess of the cost of issuing special request plates may
6 be appropriated by the legislature to the Department of Education and Early
7 Development for the support of programs benefiting public education.



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Amateur Radio Plates

Special license plates are available for use on vehicles containing mobile radios, and whose registered owners hold valid Federal Communications Commission (FCC) amateur radio operator's licenses. This class of plate is referred to as "call letter" or "amateur radio" plate.

An individual or organization may request one set of amateur radio plates for each radio license issued to them by the federal government.

The following are required with an **original** request:

- Certificate of Eligibility
- Copy of a current FCC radio operator's license
- Application for Personalized Plates
- Application for Title and Registration (When transferring title to your name.)
- Vehicle Transaction Application (When vehicle is currently in your name.)

If the applicant certifies to all six questions on the Certificate of Eligibility there is no registration fee. If the applicant only certifies to question one, the applicable registration fee for the type of vehicle being registered will be charged.

The first set of standard (blue & gold) license plates are issued free of charge, however, if a customer requests the mountain or caribou plates, the \$30.00 personalized plate fee is charged.

Original requests for amateur radio plates are processed at the Anchorage Field Office. Renewal and transfers may be processed at any field office. Your FCC license and a new Certificate of Eligibility is required.

Due to the paperwork requirements, this type of plate cannot be renewed using our online services.

State of Alaska
Division of Motor Vehicles
ATTN: Research (Am Radio)
1300 W Benson Boulevard STE 200
Anchorage AK 99503-3600

3300 B Fairbanks St., Anchorage, AK 99503
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Charitable Exempt Plates

Vehicles owned by charitable or non-profit organizations, Alaska Native Tribal Village Councils, and church/religious organizations may qualify for a reduced registration fee and "exempt" license plates. Following are the specific requirements to obtain each type of exemption.

CHARITABLE OR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

- A letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that verifies the organization's tax-exempt status.
- Application requesting exempt plates. (Form [812](#) or [821](#))

The Disclosure Section of the IRS is the contact office for questions pertaining to tax-exempt status. The number for that office is 1-877-829-5500.

ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL VILLAGE COUNCILS

- Must be a federally recognized tribal entity.
- Affidavit stating that the vehicle is used only to conduct Village business.
- Application requesting exempt plates. (Form [812](#) or [821](#))

CHURCH OR RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION

- Charitable Exempt Affidavit (Form [818](#))
- Application requesting exempt plates. (Form [812](#) or [821](#))

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Children's Trust Plates

Children's Trust license plates are available for use on passenger vehicles, including motor homes, non-commercial vans, and trucks.

The vehicle on which the Children's Trust plates are used must be currently registered. There is a fee of \$100.00 for the plates, which is charged at the time of initial issuance, as well as when replacing lost, damaged or stolen plates. The plates remain with the applicant and are transferable from one vehicle to another with a short application and transfer fee of \$5.00.

To apply for Children's Trust license plates, you may request them from any Division of Motor Vehicles office. Complete an application (see above link) and forward it to the address listed below, along with a personalized check or a money order in the amount of \$100.00. Only the registered owner of the vehicle may sign the application.

What to get for that person who has everything?

Looking for a gift that keeps on giving?

Show your support for Alaska's children—display the Alaska Children's Trust License Plate

ALASKA
 Help keep it all for Children's Trust and sharing
AGW 755

Designed by Anshu Gadhawala, a Unalakleet youth, all proceeds from the sale of these plates benefit the Alaska Children's Trust—a permanent fund to strengthen families and clear the path to a healthy future for all Alaska's kids.

Alaska Children's Trust license plates cost \$100, all of which is deposited in the principal of the Trust—generating income to help strengthen generations of Alaskans.

Gift Certificates can be purchased and redeemed at State DMVs. To contact:
 Children's Trust Plate
 Division of Motor Vehicles
 2150 E. Dowling Road
 Anchorage, AK 99507
 Website address: www.state.ak.us/dmv

For more information on the license plate or the Alaska Children's Trust call 1-800-645-KIDS, or find us on the web at www.gov.state.ak.us/trustact.htm

NOTE: The actual plates have **KID** as the first 3 letters of the plate.

GIFT CERTIFICATES

Gift certificates are available if you would like to purchase the plates for a friend. The gift certificates are non-refundable once they are issued. You may purchase a gift certificate at any DMV office, or request one by sending a request and \$100.00 personalized check or money order to:

State of Alaska
 Division of Motor Vehicles
 Attn: Children's Trust Plates
 1300 W Benson Boulevard STE 200
 Anchorage AK 99503-3600

For more information on the Alaska Children's Trust (ACT), please see
<http://www.eed.state.ak.us/EarlyDev/trust/home.html>

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~~Motor Vehicles~~

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Disabled - Parking Privileges



Disabled Vet - Parking Privileges

Disabled Vet plates without parking privileges do not have the wheelchair logo.

A person who qualifies for disability or disabled veteran plates may register **one** vehicle with special plates and is not subject to Motor Vehicle Registration Taxes or registration fees. If an applicant is required to submit an emissions certificate in order to register their vehicle, there is a \$2.00 administrative fee.

Second and subsequent sets of plates are available upon payment of full fees.

Plates cannot be requested by mail unless the applicant lives in a remote part of Alaska and does not have access to a DMV office.

Disability Plates ~ Parking Privileges

Special license plates are available to persons who have a specifically defined disability that limits or impairs their ability to walk. These plates allow that special consideration be given for parking in designated parking spaces. This consideration applies to passenger vehicles, motorhomes and non-commercial trucks or vans titled in the name of the person with the mobility impairment.

An original Application for Disabled Parking Identification is required before the plates can be issued.

Disabled Veteran's Plates ~ Parking Privileges

To apply for disabled veteran's license plates with parking privileges, an applicant must submit the following documentation of a mobility impairment and proof of service related disability:

- An original Application for Disabled Parking Identification, completed in full by both the applicant and their Alaska licensed physician.

- A certificate from an agency of the United States federal government, including the veteran's administration, stating the person has a service related disability.

Disabled Veteran's Plates ~ Without Parking Privileges

A disabled veteran who has a service related disability but does not meet the specifically defined criteria may obtain disabled veteran plates with a certification from the U.S. government that they have a 50% or greater service related disability. The plates issued to these applicants do not have the wheelchair logo and there are no parking privileges associated with the plates.

Parking Placard/Permit

Both permanent and temporary parking permits are available at no charge for individuals who experience a disability as outlined on the application, based on the physicians medical certification. These permits are available in lieu of or in addition to having the license plates.

The applicant may obtain the required application from any DMV office or print the form from our Forms site. An original application is required. [Disabled Parking Application](#)

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Disabled - Parking Privileges



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HOME FOR FARM VEHICLES

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Farm Vehicle Plates

To qualify and apply for farm plates, an applicant must make a statement in the affidavit section of the Title & Registration Application that they live on a ranch, farm or dairy, and derives their main source of income from a ranch, farm or dairy, and that the vehicle weighs under 16,000 lbs., unladen weight, and is used only for transporting ranch, farm, or dairy products to or from market or for the transportation of supplies, commodities, or equipment to be used on a ranch, farm or dairy.

If a vehicle weighs over 16,000 lbs., unladen weight, the vehicle must be registered as a commercial vehicle and does not qualify for farm plates.

If the vehicle meets the requirements for heavy vehicle use tax, they are not exempt from this requirement because of the farm plates.

The registration fee for a farm vehicle is \$68.00 and is valid for two years, regardless of the body style or weight of the vehicle.

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Historic Vehicle Plates & Customer Collector Plates



The owner of a **historic vehicle** may display special license plates provided they meet the following criteria. The motor vehicle:

- is 30 or more years in age
- is driven upon a highway for the primary purpose of historical exhibition or similar activity

Because historic vehicles are used only occasionally on the State highway system, annual registration renewal of a historic vehicle registration is not necessary. The initial registration fee for historic vehicles is \$10.00.

The owner of a **custom collector vehicle** may display special license plates provided they meet the following criteria. The motor vehicle:

- whose body and frame were manufactured before 1949 or a replica of a vehicle whose body and frame were manufactured before 1949 and that has been modified for safe road use; in this paragraph, "modified" includes a material alteration of the drive train, suspension, brake system or dimensions of the body."

A custom collector vehicle must have the following equipment:

- Hydraulic service brakes on all wheels.
- Sealed beam or halogen headlights.
- Safety belts for all occupants.
- Turn signals and turn signaling switch.
- Safety glass or lexan.
- Electric or vacuum windshield wiper located in front of the driver.
- Standard or blue dot taillights.
- Parking brake that operates at least two wheels on the same axle.

The initial plate fee for custom collector plates is \$50.00, along with all applicable fees for the class and body style of vehicle.

To apply for historic or custom collector plates, an individual must complete a Title & Registration Application and submit the application along with the current or last issued vehicle registration. As not all offices stock these types of plates, it is possible that you may apply for the plates and a temporary permit would be issued. The plates would be mailed to you at a later date.



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Prisoner of War & Veteran's Plates

In a measure to honor persons who have served or are serving with United States Armed Forces, the State Legislature has designated several special license plates for veterans, recipients of the Purple Heart Medal, and veterans who have been a Prisoner of War (POW) or who are survivors of Pearl Harbor. There is a \$30.00 plate fee charged at the time of initial application for or replacement of veteran's plates, National Guard plates and Purple Heart plates. There is no charge for POW and Pearl Harbor Survivor plates.

The Veteran's, Purple Heart and National Guard plates are available at most DMV offices. Applicants for the Prisoner of War and Pearl Harbor Survivor plates may obtain application forms at any field office and send their applications to the Division of Motor Vehicles address shown at the bottom of this page.

In order to apply for these special plates, an applicant must provide the following verification:

Applicants for **Veteran's plates** must submit proof they have served or are currently serving with a branch of the United States Armed Forces. Acceptable proof of service include copies of discharge papers, (DD Form 214), or letters of verification from the Veteran's Administration, or other comparable proof of service. Veteran's plates may be used on non-commercial vehicles only.



Air Force



Army



Coast Guard



Marine



Navy

Applicants for **National Guard plates**, must show they are **active** members of the Alaska National Guard. Acceptable proof of service is the official National Guard identification card. The plates may only be issued to a passenger vehicle, noncommercial van, pick-up truck, or motor home owned solely or jointly by the active member of the National Guard.



National Guard

Applicants for **Purple Heart plates** must show acceptable proof by providing a copy of official documentation of the Purple Heart Award to DMV. The DD Form 214 is one document that may contain this information as would a copy of orders awarding the Purple Heart Medal. Each applicant is entitled to Purple Heart Plates for use on a non-commercial vehicle.



Purple Heart

Applicants for **Prisoner of War plates** must provide written verification from the United States Department of Veteran's Affairs that they were POWs. Each applicant may obtain one set of POW plates, free of charge, for display on a non-commercial vehicle.



Ex-Prisoner of War

The following items are to be submitted to DMV when requesting any of these plates:

- Proof of service, current service or other proof as shown above
- Vehicle Transaction Application (vehicle registered in your name) or Application for Title & Registration (New or transfer vehicles)
- Statement on application as to what is being requested (Comments or Affidavit)
- \$30.00, if applicable (See above)
- Copy of registration for vehicle the plates are being requested for

1300 W Benson Boulevard STE 200, Anchorage AK 99503-3600

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Personalized Plates Frequently Asked Questions and Important Information

Please take a moment to read the following information about Personalized Plates. If you have already read the information and are ready to order plates, please click on:

[Order Personalized Plates Now](#)



The "ALASKA" plate shown above is a sample of what the new personalized plates look like. It is a digitally produced plate and the numbers are not embossed (raised).

An example of the actual plates are available in all offices. The "SAMPLE" plate shown above is the previous design and is no longer being made in personalized plates. In the previous design, the letters were embossed (raised).

ONCE YOU ORDER THE PLATES, YOU CANNOT CHANGE OR CANCEL THE REQUEST. WE DO NOT ISSUE ANY REFUNDS FOR PERSONALIZED PLATES.

Processing Time:

It takes approximately **12 weeks** to receive your plates. If you move, please contact DMV immediately to assure you receive your plates at the correct address. When the personalized plates are mailed to you, a new registration, month tab and year tab will be included. The registration will be used as a mailing label. Please be careful not to destroy it or throw it away.

Available for use on the Following Vehicle Types:

Non-commercial passenger vehicles, motor homes, vans, trucks and motorcycles. Motorcycles can only be issued in the standard design (blue and gold).

Address:

Your address must be correct on your vehicle registration. If it is not, please [E-mail ALASKA DMV](#) and advise of the new address. We will need your **current license plate number**.

Expired Registration, New Vehicles, Vehicles due to be Sold:

- Personalized plates cannot be ordered for vehicles with expired registration.
- If your registration is due to expire soon, take the steps to renew now so that your registration is current when your new plates arrive. If you renew your registration, be sure to place the new year tab on the your rear license plate. (A new month tab and year tab will be sent with your new plates.)
- If your registration expires after ordering the plates, they cannot be issued until the registration is renewed.
- The vehicle must be in your name before you can request the plates. We cannot order plates for vehicles with temporary permits.
- If you intend to sell your vehicle soon, please **do not** order plates for that vehicle.

Duplicate Plates or Change of Plate Design:

Duplicate plate requests or requests for a change of plate design cannot be processed over the Internet. Complete a new Personalized Plate application and follow all the instructions. For lost plates, submit your application at a DMV office as new plates will need to be issued in the meantime.

Payment Options:

- We accept VISA and MasterCard **credit cards** only.
- To order with a personalized check or money order, please use the Personalized Plates application. Fees are \$30.00.

Transfer of a Personalized Plate:Transferring Plates

Request Plates Now: Personalized Plates

Division of Motor Vehicles
Attn: Research
1300 W Benson Boulevard STE 200
Anchorage, AK 99503-3600
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MOTOR VEHICLES

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Prisoner of War & Veteran's Plates

In a measure to honor persons who have served or are serving with United States Armed Forces, the State Legislature has designated several special license plates for veterans, recipients of the Purple Heart Medal, and veterans who have been a Prisoner of War (POW) or who are survivors of Pearl Harbor. There is a \$30.00 plate fee charged at the time of initial application for or replacement of veteran's plates, National Guard plates and Purple Heart plates. There is no charge for POW and Pearl Harbor Survivor plates.

The Veteran's, Purple Heart and National Guard plates are available at most DMV offices. Applicants for the Prisoner of War and Pearl Harbor Survivor plates may obtain application forms at any field office and send their applications to the Division of Motor Vehicles address shown at the bottom of this page.

In order to apply for these special plates, an applicant must provide the following verification:

Applicants for **Veteran's plates** must submit proof they have served or are currently serving with a branch of the United States Armed Forces. Acceptable proof of service include copies of discharge papers, (DD Form 214), or letters of verification from the Veteran's Administration, or other comparable proof of service. Veteran's plates may be used on non-commercial vehicles only.



Air Force



Army



Coast Guard



Marine



Navy

Applicants for **National Guard plates**, must show they are **active** members of the Alaska National Guard. Acceptable proof of service is the official National Guard identification card. The plates may only be issued to a passenger vehicle, noncommercial van, pick-up truck, or motor home owned solely or jointly by the active member of the National Guard.



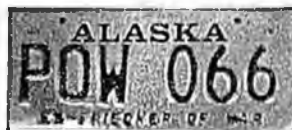
National Guard

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Purple Heart

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The following items are to be submitted to DMV when requesting any of these plates:

- Proof of service, current service or other proof as shown above
- Vehicle Transaction Application (vehicle registered in your name) or Application for Title & Registration (New or transfer vehicles)
- Statement on application as to what is being requested (Comments or Affidavit)
- \$30.00, if applicable (See above)
- Copy of registration for vehicle the plates are being requested for

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University Plates

University license plates are available for use on non-commercial vehicles. Including passenger vehicles, motor homes, vans, trucks, and motorcycles.

The vehicle on which the University plates are used must be currently registered. There is a fee of \$50.00, which is charged at the time of initial issuance, as well as when replacing lost, damaged or stolen plates.

The following items are required to transfer University Plates:

- Application
- Copy of the current registration for the vehicle the plates are being transferred to.
- Copy of last registration showing the university plate to be transferred. (Requested but not required)
- Transfer fee of \$5.00

NOTE: The name on the current registration must match the name on the vehicle the plates are being transferred from.

University plates are available at the DMV Office in the city where each campus is located. Any person may request University plates, it is not necessary that the applicant be a student, graduate, or have any affiliation with the University.

To obtain University plates, you would need to complete a Vehicle Transaction Application and pay the \$50.00 plate fee. Residents from locations other than Fairbanks, Anchorage, Juneau and Valdez, may submit their applications at any DMV office. Their University plates will be mailed to them in approximately 30 days.

University plates are available for the following campuses: University of Alaska Anchorage, University of Alaska Fairbanks, University of Alaska Southeast and Prince William Sound Community College.



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Personalized Plates Frequently Asked Questions and Important Information

Please take a moment to read the following information about Personalized Plates. If you have already read the information and are ready to order plates, please click on:

[Order Personalized Plates Now](#)



The "ALASKA" plate shown above is a sample of what the new personalized plates look like. It is a digitally produced plate and the numbers are not embossed (raised). An example of the actual plates are available in all offices. The "SAMPLE" plate shown above is the previous design and is no longer being made in personalized plates. In the previous design, the letters were embossed (raised).

ONCE YOU ORDER THE PLATES, YOU CANNOT CHANGE OR CANCEL THE REQUEST. WE DO NOT ISSUE ANY REFUNDS FOR PERSONALIZED PLATES.

Processing Time:

It takes approximately 12 weeks to receive your plates. If you move, please contact DMV immediately to assure you receive your plates at the correct address. When the personalized plates are mailed to you, a new registration, month tab and year tab will be included. The registration will be used as a mailing label. Please be careful not to destroy it or throw it away.

Available for use on the Following Vehicle Types:

Non-commercial passenger vehicles, motor homes, vans, trucks and motorcycles. Motorcycles can only be issued in the standard design (blue and gold).

Address:

Your address must be correct on your vehicle registration. If it is not, please [E mail ALASKA DMV](#) and advise of the new address. We will need your **current license plate number**.

Expired Registration, New Vehicles, Vehicles due to be Sold:

- Personalized plates cannot be ordered for vehicles with expired registration.
- If your registration is due to expire soon, take the steps to renew now so that your registration is current when your new plates arrive. If you renew your registration, be sure to place the new year tab on the your rear license plate. (A new month tab and year tab will be sent with your new plates.)
- If your registration expires after ordering the plates, they cannot be issued until the registration is renewed.
- The vehicle must be in your name before you can request the plates. We cannot order plates for vehicles with temporary permits.
- If you intend to sell your vehicle soon, please **do not** order plates for that vehicle.

Duplicate Plates or Change of Plate Design:

Duplicate plate requests or requests for a change of plate design cannot be processed over the Internet. Complete a new Personalized Plate application and follow all the instructions. For lost plates, submit your application at a DMV office as new plates will need to be issued in the meantime.

Payment Options:

- We accept VISA and MasterCard **credit cards** only.
- To order with a personalized check or money order, please use the Personalized Plates application. Fees are \$30.00.

Transfer of a Personalized Plate:

Transferring Plates

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Air Force



Army



Coast Guard



Marine



Navy

Applicants for **National Guard plates**, must show they are **active** members of the Alaska National Guard. Acceptable proof of service is the official National Guard identification card. The plates may only be issued to a passenger vehicle, noncommercial van, pick-up truck, or motor home owned solely or jointly by the active member of the National Guard.



National Guard

Applicants for **Purple Heart plates** must show acceptable proof by providing a copy of official documentation of the Purple Heart Award to DMV. The DD Form 214 is one document that may contain this information as would a copy of orders awarding the Purple Heart Medal. Each applicant is entitled to Purple Heart Plates for use on a non-commercial vehicle.



Purple Heart

Applicants for **Prisoner of War plates** must provide written verification from the United States Department of Veteran's Affairs that they were POWs. Each applicant may obtain one set of POW plates, free of charge, for display on a non-commercial vehicle.



Ex-Prisoner of War

The following items are to be submitted to DMV when requesting any of these plates:

- Proof of service, current service or other proof as shown above
- Vehicle Transaction Application (vehicle registered in your name) or Application for Title & Registration (New or transfer vehicles)
- Statement on application as to what is being requested (Comments or Affidavit)
- \$30.00, if applicable (See above)
- Copy of registration for vehicle the plates are being requested for

1300 W Benson Boulevard STE 200, Anchorage AK 99503-3600

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