From:	Greene, Mark
To:	Ford, William; Schuetz, Steve
Subject:	FW: AAMVA Publication
Date:	Wednesday, September 05, 2012 3:47:25 PM
Attachments:	AJPI Configuration Design Booklet.pdf

FYI

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]@thelacp.org]
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 3:29 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: AAMVA Publication

b6

I thought that everyone might be interested in seeing this from AAMVA.

[redacted]
Project Manager – Video Standards for Law Enforcement Applications
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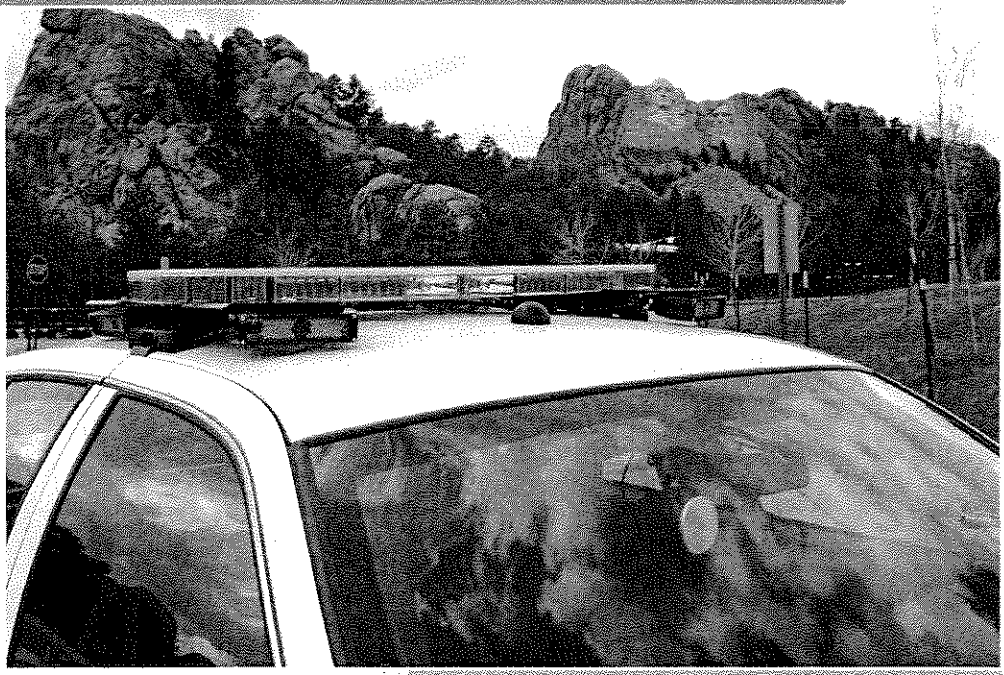
2011

License Plate Configuration Design Booklet



American Association of
Motor Vehicle Administrators

Automated License Plate Reader Working Group

11/15/2011

Revised 4/12/12

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Part I. License Plate Length, Repeats & Record Retrieval

Jurisdiction	Maximum number of alpha-numeric characters allowed	Plate numbers repeated for different types of plates		Information besides plate number, needed to ensure correct record is retrieved
		Yes/No	Notes	
Alabama	7 includes spaces, dashes, and stacked characters	No		N/A
Alaska	6	No		N/A
Alberta	7	No		N/A
Arizona	7 5 or 6 - specialty plates	No		N/A
Arkansas	7	No		Over the years, some numbers have been inadvertently repeated. When an inquiry is made on repeated numbers, each plate is listed with the license plate type. Any type listed may then be selected to proceed with the inquiry
British Columbia	6	No		N/A
California	7 5 or 6 - if stacked letters or symbols	No	Look alikes, e.g., 1 for an I, or zero for an O on personalized plates are not allowed.	N/A
Colorado	7 6 - motorcycle plates	No		N/A
Connecticut	6 - current plates 8 - with system redesign *However, since Connecticut's plates are embossed, certain space restrictions apply due to sizing limitations on the license plates.*	Yes	In the past, approximately 23 generic class codes have been repeated. Duplicate vanity and low number plates can be repeated as long as they are in different classes.	Current system has class codes and sub codes used to differentiate between types of plates issued. In modernized systems, plates will be distinguished by type and usage.
Delaware	7	No		N/A
District of Columbia	7	Yes	Standard and personalized plate numbers can be repeated on various plate types.	The individual running the record must determine which record is appropriate, VIN# based on the vehicle make, model and color.
Florida	7 - center design plates 5 - left design plates	No		N/A

Jurisdiction	Maximum number of alpha-numeric characters allowed	Plate numbers repeated for different types of plates		Information besides plate number, needed to ensure correct record is retrieved
		Yes/No	Notes	
Georgia	7	Yes	Standard plate numbers, as well as collegiate or personalized plates can be repeated on various plate types.	System will return records for all vehicles with entered plate number. The individual running the record must determine which record is appropriate, based on the vehicle make, model and color or the category of the plate.
Hawaii	6	Yes	Only on military specialty license plates, disabled persons, and electric vehicle.	The individual identifying the license plate must also remember the words or symbol located on the left side of the license plate. If only the letter/number is provided, the individual running the record must try all the alpha prefixes of these plates to determine which record may be appropriate, based on the vehicle make, and color.
Idaho	7 *does not include stacked alpha/numerics*	Yes	There are instances of this, although working to clean them up. Possible for a passenger car/truck and a motorcycle to have the same plate number.	The individual requesting the information needs to select the appropriate record based on the vehicle type.
Illinois	7 *does not include stacked characters*	Yes	Specialty plate may display the same characters as a standard plate.	The additional information should include the 2 letter stacked suffix on the right hand side of the plate.
Indiana	6 - passenger, specialty, RV and motorcycle plates 7 - truck plates 8 - trailer plates	No	Numbers were repeated in the past, but due to problems, the practice was discontinued	N/A
Iowa	7	No		N/A
Kentucky	6 *includes stacked characters*	No		N/A
Louisiana	7 *not including stacked characters*	Yes	The numerical series repeats for all special plates. Each plate type would have an alpha prefix specific to the plate type.	Special plates are indexed by the numerical series in conjunction with an alpha prefix. Most special plates include the prefix as stacked characters to the left of the numerical series.

Jurisdiction	Maximum number of alpha-numeric characters allowed	Plate numbers repeated for different types of plates		Information besides plate number, needed to ensure correct record is retrieved
		Yes/No	Notes	
Maine	7	Yes	Standard and personalized plate numbers can be repeated on various older plate types. Since 2007, new plate classes cannot duplicate older classes. For the three or four plates with stacked class codes, the class code is not part of the number.	System will return records for all plates with repeated numbers. Individual running the record must determine which record is appropriate, based on the vehicle make, model and color.
Manitoba	6 *(3 alpha / 3 numeric)*	No		N/A
Maryland	7	No	Exception: Expired personalized plates could be re-issued to a new applicant upon request.	vehicle class
Michigan	7	No		N/A
Minnesota	8	No		N/A
Mississippi	7	Yes	Specialty plates can have the same number, but not the same double stack characters	the type of specialty plate
Missouri	4 to 6	No		N/A
Montana	7 ½ *half is a space*	Yes	Plate number can be repeated as long as plate design is different.	type of plate design
Nebraska	7 *does not include dash*	Yes		plate type
Nevada	7	Yes		plate prefix
New Brunswick	6	No		
New Hampshire	7 *includes numbers and symbols*	Yes	Not applicable for all plate types. For example, you cannot have the same regular passenger digits on a state park plate	When a plate number that contains a repeated number is run, the system will return records for all vehicles with that plate number. The individual running the record must determine which record is appropriate, based on the vehicle make, model and color.
New Jersey	7 5 - dedicated, sports and organizational plates	No		
New Mexico	7 6 - motorcycle plates	No		
New York	8 - car and truck plates 6 - motorcycle plates	Yes		Plate class distinguishes one from the other.

Jurisdiction	Maximum number of alpha-numeric characters allowed	Plate numbers repeated for different types of plates		Information besides plate number, needed to ensure correct record is retrieved
		Yes/No	Notes	
North Carolina	7 – standard plates 8 - personalized plates 4 - specialty plates	Yes	For specialty plates. However, the prefix or suffix will make it a different plate number when running the plate.	Prefix or suffix for specialty plates. Same number will not be repeated twice in unless it has a prefix or suffix.
North Dakota	7 – standard plate 5 – stacked letter and logo plates	Yes	Stacked letter plates can repeat alphas/numerics. All other plates cannot repeat alphas/numerics.	
Northwest Territories	6 *includes spaces*	Yes	Motorcycle and regular passenger plates may have duplicate numbers, however the MVIS system differentiates them by type.	All plates that contain that sequence would be pulled.
Nova Scotia	7 *does not include symbols*	Yes / No	Usually plate numbers are not repeated. However, in some situations, numbers may be repeated.	System will return records for all vehicles with the plate number. The individual running the record must determine which record is appropriate, based on the vehicle serial number, make, model and color.
Ohio	7 - standard plates 6 - logo plates *does not include stacked characters used for dealers*	No		N/A
Oklahoma	7 - with stacked letters 6 -without stacked letters *standard plates only*	No		N/A
Ontario	8	No		N/A
Oregon	7 In some cases, the first two characters are stacked to the left-side.	No	Exception: a vanity plate number for a different vehicle type than the regular plate configuration issued to before. Happens very rarely.	For exceptions, enter an asterisk at the beginning of the entry. The asterisk identifies the configuration as being a custom plate.
Pennsylvania	7 *does include stacked characters*	No		N/A
Quebec	7	No		N/A
Rhode Island	6	Yes		When a plate number that contains a repeated number is run, the system will return records for all vehicles with that plate number. The individual running the record must put in Plate Type (01-Passenger, 02-Commercial, etc.)

Jurisdiction	Maximum number of alpha-numeric characters allowed	Plate numbers repeated for different types of plates		Information besides plate number, needed to ensure correct record is retrieved
		Yes/No	Notes	
Saskatchewan	6	No		N/A
South Carolina	7	No		N/A
South Dakota	6 - standard 7 - personalized, exempt entity, and trailer ID	No		N/A
Texas	7	No	*Exceptions:* • "Old plates" can be displayed on vehicles 25 years or older w/ Antique or Classic registration. • Radio Operator plates may be featured on numerous owned by the radio operator.	System will return records for all vehicles with the plate number. Record 1 of 2, 1 of 3, etc. will display. The individual running the record must determine which record is appropriate, based on the vehicle make, model and color.
Utah	7	No		N/A
Vermont	7 *does not include stacked characters*	Yes	Standard and personalized plates can be repeated on various plate types.	System will return records for all vehicles with the plate number. Plate number also followed by a letter. Each letter that follows a plate number is a "vehicle type". The vehicle type represents the type of vehicle for the plate being run. A - Car B Truck C - Trailer D - Agriculture G - Motorcycle I - Bus J - Municipal K - State
Virginia	7 8 - if stacked	Yes	Numeric only plate numbers are sometimes issued on a different plate type.	plate type
Washington	7 includes stacked	No	The plate identifier is different for each plate, and because of this no two plates are the same.	Plate number must include the stacked alpha identifiers to access the record.
West Virginia	8	No / Yes	99% of plates are unique a few of the oldest series of plates may repeat a limited number of segments of numbers below 2000. However, each of these old style plates have very distinctive plates, e.g., Prisoner of War, handicapped and low numbered passenger vehicle plates numbered under 2000.	subclass Class A are all passenger vehicle cars, SUVs, pickup trucks under 8000 pounds

Jurisdiction	Maximum number of alpha-numeric characters allowed	Plate numbers repeated for different types of plates		Information besides plate number, needed to ensure correct record is retrieved
		Yes/No	Notes	
Wisconsin	7	Yes, historically. No, currently.	In the past, yes, but the practice is being eliminated.	System will return records for all vehicles with the plate number. The individual running the record determines which record is appropriate based on the vehicle and plate type.
Wyoming	7	Yes	The numbers, as well as personalized plates are repeated on a passenger, truck, collegiate, motorcycle, light trailer, trailer, commercial, handicapped, house trailer, and multi-purpose vehicle. In addition, some of the numbers on specialty plates (Fire Fighter, EMT, etc) are repeated on other specialty plates.	Plate number and the type of plate must be run together. The individual running the record must determine which record is appropriate based on the vehicle make and color.
Yukon	6	No		N/A

Part II. Stacked Characters

Jurisdiction	Plates contain stacked characters	# of Stacked Characters	Location of Stacked Letters	Stacked characters are part of official license plate number	Position of stacked characters same when printed or inquired	Stacked characters printed on registration
Alabama	Yes	2	left side - National Guard plate left side, after the 1 or 2-digit county indicator - other plates	Yes	In sequence	Yes
Alaska	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Alberta	No Only the Lt. Governor's plate is stacked		left side	Yes The plate number on system would be **LTG0V** (zero not the letter O)	In sequence	Shows as LTG0V
Arizona	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arkansas	Yes	2	either left or right side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
British Columbia	No			N/A	N/A	N/A
California	Yes	2 or 3	either left or right side	In some instances, yes. For example, disabled person and disabled veteran license plates, the "DP" and the "DV" are part of the plate number on the database.	In sequence	Yes
Colorado	Yes	2 or 3	left, right or both	No	N/A	No
Connecticut	Yes	up to 4	position varies	No, but in some cases stacking is used for identification purposes. e.g., . "comb" stacked indicates a combination plate.	N/A	N/A
Delaware	Yes	2	left side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
District of Columbia	Yes DC gov't vehicles only	2	left side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
Florida	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Jurisdiction	Plates contain stacked characters	# of Stacked Characters	Location of Stacked Letters	Stacked characters are part of official license plate number	Position of stacked characters same when printed or inquired	Stacked characters printed on registration
Georgia	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hawaii	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Idaho	Yes	up to 4	left side	No	N/A	No
Illinois	Yes	2	right side, w/ 1 or 2 exceptions	Yes	In sequence	Yes
Indiana	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Iowa	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kentucky	Yes *specialty plates only*	2	right side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
Louisiana	Yes	2	Left side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
Maine	No *However, a few older plates have stacked #s*	N/A	left side	No	In sequence	No
Manitoba	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maryland	Yes	2, 3 or 4	right or left side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
Michigan	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minnesota	No *However, some old permanent plates have stacked letters*	N/A	left side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
Mississippi	Yes	2	Right side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
Missouri	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Montana	Yes *two plates only*	2	left side – disabled vet left side second position – purple heart disabled vet	No	In sequence	No
Nebraska	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nevada	Yes	3	left side	Yes	In sequence	Yes

Jurisdiction	Plates contain stacked characters	# of Stacked Characters	Location of Stacked Letters	Stacked characters are part of official license plate number	Position of stacked characters same when printed or inquired	Stacked characters printed on registration
New Brunswick	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Hampshire	Yes	2	left side	No for conservation plate which uses CH, but for construction equipment the "CE" is part of the plate	In sequence	Yes
New Jersey	Yes	2	left or right side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
New Mexico	Yes	2, 3 or 4	left or right side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
New York	Yes	2, or more	left or right side	Some are, some aren't.	In sequence	Yes
North Carolina	Yes	2	left or right side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
North Dakota	Yes	2	left	Yes	The plates are listed under a particular series in the system *(e.g., Lewis and Clark is LC stacked; Gold Star is GS stacked)*	Yes
Northwest Territories	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nova Scotia	Yes	2 or 3	left or right side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
Ohio	Yes	2 or 3	left side	No	In sequence	Yes
Oklahoma	Yes	2 and 3	left side or middle	Yes	In sequence	Yes
Ontario	No	N/A	N/A *Note: Some plate types print on the left side*	No	N/A	N/A
Oregon	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pennsylvania	Yes	2	left or right side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
Quebec	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rhode Island	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Saskatchewan	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Carolina	Yes	2	left side or both sides	Yes	In sequence	No
South Dakota	Yes	2 or 3	left side	Yes	In sequence	Yes

Jurisdiction	Plates contain stacked characters	# of Stacked Characters	Location of Stacked Letters	Stacked characters are part of official license plate number	Position of stacked characters same when printed or inquired	Stacked characters printed on registration
Texas	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Utah	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vermont	Yes	3	left side	No	N/A	No
Virginia	Yes	2	left or right side	Yes 99% of the time; but there are exceptions	In sequence	Yes
Washington	Yes	2 or 3	left or right side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
West Virginia	Yes	2	left or right side	Yes	In sequence	Yes
Wisconsin	Yes	2	right or left sides	Yes. Except for moped plates.	In sequence	Yes
Wyoming	Yes	2 and 3	left side	No. Stacked characters are used to identify plate type.	No	No
Yukon	No		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Part III – Use of Non-Alphanumeric Characters

Jurisdiction	Plates contain non-alpha or numeric characters	Symbols or characters used [1]	Non-alpha or numeric symbols or characters considered part of official plate number	Non-alphanumeric characters printed on registration card as they appear on the license plate
Alabama	Yes	dash	Historically, no, but we recently requested that county licensing officials send license plate numbers exactly as they are printed on the plate (with spaces and dashes). The license plate number should appear in an inquiry whether or not the spaces or dashes were entered.	Not in the past, but we are now encouraging county licensing officials to include spaces and dashes on the registration receipt.
Alaska	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Alberta	Yes	dash only	No	No
Arizona	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arkansas	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
British Columbia	Yes	dash	No	No
California	Yes	plus sign	No However, the database will denote it's a KIDS plate and position of the symbol will appear after the symbol type chosen for the plate number. For example, 3/Plus Sign means the plus sign appears as the 3rd character in the plate number.	No
Colorado	Yes	dash, periods, slashed zero	No	No
Connecticut	Yes	dots	No	No
Delaware	Yes	hyphens, spaces, and ampersands	No	No
District of Columbia	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Florida	Yes	dash	No	No
Georgia	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hawaii	Yes	dash	No	No
Idaho	No	Dash	No. Typically part of the special plate design, and not part of the plate number.	No
Illinois	No	N/A	N/A	N/A

Jurisdiction	Plates contain non-alpha or numeric characters	Symbols or characters used [1]	Non-alpha or numeric symbols or characters considered part of official plate number	Non-alphanumeric characters printed on registration card as they appear on the license plate
Indiana	No	NA	N/A	N/A
Iowa	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kentucky	Yes	spaces and dashes	Yes	Yes
Louisiana	Yes *personalized plates only*	dash, period, space	No	No
Maine	Yes *for vanity plates*	dash, ampersand	No	Yes
Manitoba	Yes *personalized plates only*	dashes and spaces	Yes	Yes
Maryland	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Michigan	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minnesota	Yes	hyphen *(personalized plates only)*	No	No
Mississippi	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Missouri	Yes	dashes, spaces, and hyphens	No	No
Montana	Yes	ampersands, dash or dot zero with slash for amateur radio plate	Yes - amateur radio	No
Nebraska	Yes	dash	No	No
Nevada	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Brunswick	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Hampshire	Yes	dash, plus sign, ampersand	Yes	Yes
New Jersey	Yes	dash	Yes	Yes
New Mexico	Yes	zia symbol (+), apostrophe ('), dash (-), and Spanish Ñ	Yes	Yes
New York	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Carolina	Yes	period, apostrophe, exclamation point, colon, dash, comma, ampersand, question mark, dollar sign, equal sign, number sign, single quote, plus sign, slant line,	No	No

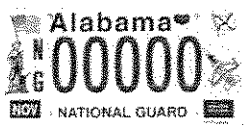
Jurisdiction	Plates contain non-alpha or numeric characters	Symbols or characters used [1]	Non-alpha or numeric symbols or characters considered part of official plate number	Non-alphanumeric characters printed on registration card as they appear on the license plate
		asterisk, at (@) and double quotes		
North Dakota	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Northwest Territories	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nova Scotia	Yes	dash, DOT and other symbols/graphics	No	No
Ohio	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oklahoma	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ontario	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oregon	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pennsylvania	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Quebec	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rhode Island	Yes	dash	No	No
Saskatchewan	Yes	dash	No	No
South Carolina	Yes	ampersand	Yes	Yes
South Dakota	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Texas	Yes	spaces, hyphens, periods *Texas has a unique, "T for Texas" specialty license plate in several colors which features a stylized "T" in the design area on the left side of the plate. The "T" IS part of the alphanumeric plate number.*	No	No
Utah	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vermont	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Virginia	Yes	dash, ampersand	No	No
Washington	No	N/A	N/A	N/A

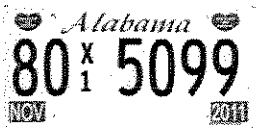
Jurisdiction	Plates contain non-alpha or numeric characters	Symbols or characters used [1]	Non-alpha or numeric symbols or characters considered part of official plate number	Non-alphanumeric characters printed on registration card as they appear on the license plate
West Virginia	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wisconsin	Yes	dash *(only used for plate readability)*	No	No
Wyoming	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Yukon	No	N/A	N/A	N/A

[1] *graphics such as a hand, heart, wheelchair, logos, and/or other non-alpha/numeric graphics are not part of any jurisdiction's plate number*

Part IV – Images of License Plates Containing Stacked Graphics

Alabama

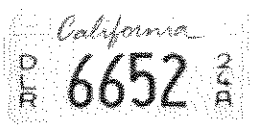




Alberta

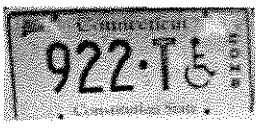
Arkansas

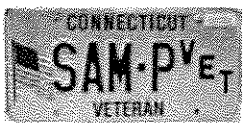
California



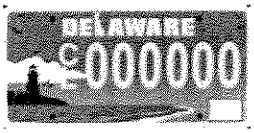
Colorado

Connecticut





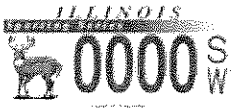
Delaware



District of Columbia

Idaho

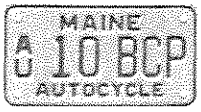
Illinois



Kentucky

Louisiana

Maine



Maryland

Minnesota

Mississippi

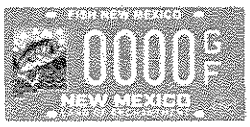
Montana

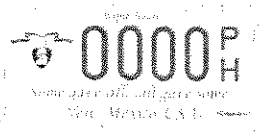
Nevada

New Hampshire

New Jersey

New Mexico

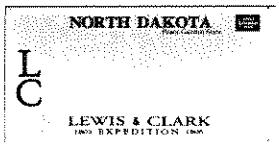


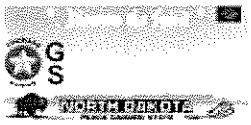


New York

North Carolina

North Dakota



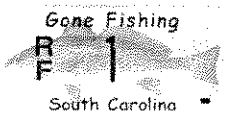


Nova Scotia

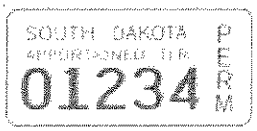
Oklahoma

Pennsylvania

South Carolina



South Dakota

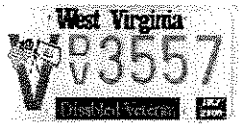


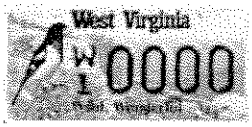
Vermont

Virginia

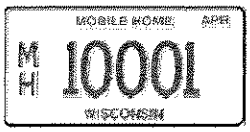
Washington

West Virginia





Wisconsin



Wyoming