

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

W. Lee Elgin, Commissioner, 1949

D. Marshall Schroeder, Deputy Commissioner

Owen R. E. McGeeney, Auditor

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The Office of Commissioner of Motor Vehicles was established in 1910. The Commissioner, who is appointed by the Governor for a term of four years, serves as the Director of the Department. The Department of Motor Vehicles is responsible for the issuance of drivers' licenses and for the titling, registration and licensing of all motor vehicles operating continuously within the State.

The Department examines all persons seeking drivers' licenses in the State, the examination includes a road test and a knowledge of the motor vehicle laws of the State. These examinations are conducted in Baltimore City and in eighteen other cities and towns throughout the State. All motor vehicles registered in the State must have issued for them a certificate of title. There is levied an excise tax of two percent of the fair value of the vehicle for each original title registration and each subsequent transfer of title. The tax is collected by the Department. All commercial vehicles operating within the State of Maryland must carry financial responsibility insurance with an insurance firm licensed to do business within the State. All policies carried must be registered with the Department which issues a permit for operation in the State. All persons involved in Motor Vehicle accidents within the State and who are unable to satisfy a judgment arising therefrom must present to the Department adequate evidence of financial responsibility before their operator's license can be restored. The Department maintains a file on all accidents occurring within the State, reports of which are required to be submitted by the terms of the law, and in addition a record of each individual owner who has been found guilty of a traffic violation.

The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may refuse, suspend or revoke an operator's license to any person whom he deems unfit or unable to operate a Motor Vehicle. Appeals are permitted to the Courts from the decision of the Commissioner, except in those cases where the revocation is mandatory.

All fees collected for the registration and titling of Motor Vehicles and all fines levied by Justices of the Peace, Magistrates, and the Traffic Court of Baltimore City are collected by the Department for deposit to the credit of the Motor Vehicle Revenue Fund (Code 1939 and 1947 Supp. Art. 66½, secs. 3, 4, 21, 22, 78, 82, 83, 94-110H, 285).

Publications: *Annual Report of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, 1946.*

Motor Vehicular Laws of Maryland, 1947.

Appropriations:	1948	1949
Special Funds	\$796,353	\$755,555

Staff: 264