

The Division also maintains a staff of forty-nine investigators who secure the return of operators' or chauffeurs' licenses and tags from those drivers who have had their privileges revoked or suspended. These investigators also assist in determining whether or not unsafe drivers have been sufficiently rehabilitated. They also assist the Vehicle Registration Division in the regulation of automobile dealers in Maryland.

Division of Vehicle Registration

The Division of Vehicle Registration is essentially responsible for the titling and registration of all passenger and commercial motor vehicles in Maryland. This Division also collects the three percent Titling Excise Tax imposed on vehicles titled in the State and for assessing and collecting the proper registration fees. These two sources of revenue comprise the bulk of the approximately \$85,000,000 which the Department anticipates collecting in the fiscal year 1968. The Division also works closely with the Unsatisfied Claim and Judgment Fund Board in determining whether or not an applicant for license tags has his vehicle insured in the minimum amounts of \$15,000 and \$30,000 for the personal injury liability and the \$5,000 for property damage liability insurance. Any applicants who have insufficient liability insurance must pay a specified fee into the Unsatisfied Claim and Judgment Fund before the Department can issue his tags.

The Commercial Insurance Section administers the commercial vehicle insurance laws of the State. These laws require that all owners of commercial vehicles operating for hire within the State and all taxicabs not operating under permit of the Public Service Commission or not otherwise specifically exempted, must file with the Department a Certificate of Insurance in the minimum amounts of \$25,000 and \$50,000 for personal liability insurance and \$10,000 for property damage liability and obtain a gratis permit to be carried with the vehicle at all times.

The Automobile Dealer/Salesman Licensing Service administers the dealer licensing and bonding laws of the State. Under these laws, automobile dealers and their salesmen are required to meet certain criteria established by law and enforced by the Department. For the protection of both consumers and taxpayers, dealers and salesmen are required to post security bonds of \$5,000 and \$10,000 respectively. Dealers who violate the licensing and bonding provisions of the law or other sections of the motor vehicle code relating to the titling and registration of vehicles or who engage in unethical or unfair business practices are subject to the loss of their licenses. The Automobile Dealer/Salesman Licensing Service also issues bulletins periodically advising dealers of changes in laws, procedures and rules and regulations.

The Division of Vehicle Registration also cooperates with the State Police and other law enforcement agencies in the administration of the used car inspection program. The Division establishes the minimum standards for used cars and also establishes procedures for the suspension of the license tags of vehicles cited as unsafe by the Automotive Safety Enforcement Division of the Maryland State Police when the motor vehicle owner has not corrected any defects. The Department prepares and distributes all forms for the administration of the used car inspection law.

The Division of Vehicle Registration also administers the reciprocity agreements with other States and jurisdictions and maintains both an alphabetical and a numerical registration card filing system to aid law enforcement and others who desire prompt vehicle registration