

NEWS BULLETIN

Maine Automobile Dealers Association

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DISTRIBUTION

- General Manager
- Office Manager
- Parts Manager
- Sales Manager
- Service Manager

2008-10

TITLE APPLICATION FEE TO INCREASE SEPTEMBER 1ST

At the most recent session of the Maine Legislature, the Transportation Committee unanimously endorsed a bill to provide additional funding for road and bridge projects during the 2008 construction season. A portion of this bill will increase title application fees by \$10.00 effective with all transactions occurring on and after September 1, 2008. For title applications the fee will increase from \$23.00 to \$33.00 per application. If you are a dealership which orders pre-validated title applications, in other words pre-pays the fee, you should not order a supply which will take you beyond September 1 or you will have to send an individual check for \$10.00 with each title application in order to cover the additional fee effective on that date. All licensed dealerships will be receiving a notice from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles about this law change, which also incorporated additional fees for license plates, although not for dealer plates.

COLLECTION OF OIL CHANGE FEE IS REVISED EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1

The Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature received a number of legislative proposals to change or eliminate the motor oil change fee which was passed in 2007 to help pay the cleanup costs associated with the George West waste oil sites in Plymouth, Ellsworth, Casco and Presque Isle. The only bill which passed affecting the oil change fee is a bill which removes the point of collection for the fee from the facility which changes oil for customers or for their own vehicles. The collection of the \$1, \$2 or \$3 fee will end as of August 1, and will be replaced by a fee on the amount of bulk oil delivered by distributors. This change in the law is meant to ease the administrative complexity, and sales tax audit potential, in the collection of the \$3,000,000 annual amount needed to retire the anticipated revenue bonds designed to pay the remediation cost at the George West sites.

As dealerships and other purchasers of bulk motor oil for vehicle engines receive gallonage from their distributor, the price of that motor oil will be increased to reflect a \$1.10 per gallon charge on engine oil designed for light duty vehicles and 35¢ per gallon additional for diesel powered vehicles. These sums are approximately the same as the current retail fees in terms of the overall amount to be collected towards the retirement of the revenue bonds. The Maine Revenue Services will be issuing bulletins to all tax collection entities which describe this law change, and MADA will be issuing additional information on this subject both at the annual meeting on June 27th at the Harborside Hotel & Marina in Bar Harbor and in bulletins.

ANNUAL MEETING & CONVENTION DRAWS NEAR

Your Association's 2008 annual meeting and convention is being held over the Friday - Sunday weekend of June 27 - 29 at the Harborside Hotel and Marina, on the waterfront in downtown Bar Harbor. The convention program, combined with the recreational opportunities of Bar Harbor, Acadia National Park and Mt. Desert Island, offers a unique time to gather information of use in your dealership while relaxing in an area of Maine with a multitude of enjoyable seaside activities.

MADA's business programming will include a visit and presentation by United States Senator Susan Collins, who will address some of the issues currently being discussed in Congress.

A highlight of Saturday morning's workshop will be a presentation of the NADA Lifeline To Profits seminar. The most valuable elements of this highly successful workshop will be presented. Dealers are encouraged to bring their most recent financial statement, for reference purposes only. There will be no sharing of data, so potentially competing dealerships will not have their own statistics compromised. The emphasis of this workshop will center on action planning for today's market conditions, and will touch all departments of the dealership.

Our annual meeting will also incorporate a review of the activity at the just - concluded session of the Maine Legislature. In addition, we will discuss current issues and future regulatory activity: sales to non-U.S. residents, weekend sales promotion difficulties, "Fed Up With Taxes" referendum question and the Dirigo funding method, extended warranty solicitations, the "Red Flags" rules, and credit card limits.

On the recreational side, opportunities include: trolley excursions through Acadia National Park; boat rides along the coast, within the harbor, or a whale watch cruise; a craft workshop featuring mosaic and personalized pottery projects; the Bar Harbor Club spa; a dance band Friday night; separate children's program Saturday evening; golf tourney (scramble) Friday noon; poolside relaxation.

MADA looks forward to its 64th annual meeting and convention in Bar Harbor. Past membership experiences at the Harborside have been excellent, and this year promises a nice event. Please find enclosed convention registration forms for both MADA and the Harborside Hotel, for those who are interested and have not already returned their forms. We look forward to an enjoyable and educational weekend, and we hope you can join your fellow dealers.

NOTICE

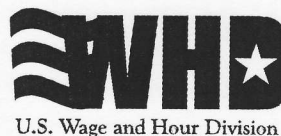
Military Family Leave

On January 28, President Bush signed into law the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2008 (NDAA), Public Law 110-181. Section 585(a) of the NDAA amended the FMLA to provide eligible employees working for covered employers two important new leave rights related to military service:

- (1) New Qualifying Reason for Leave.** Eligible employees are entitled to up to 12 weeks of leave because of “any qualifying exigency” arising out of the fact that the spouse, son, daughter, or parent of the employee is on active duty, or has been notified of an impending call to active duty status, in support of a contingency operation. By the terms of the statute, this provision requires the Secretary of Labor to issue regulations defining “any qualifying exigency.” In the interim, employers are encouraged to provide this type of leave to qualifying employees.

- (2) New Leave Entitlement.** An eligible employee who is the spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin of a covered servicemember who is recovering from a serious illness or injury sustained in the line of duty on active duty is entitled to up to 26 weeks of leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember. This provision became effective immediately upon enactment. This military caregiver leave is available during “a single 12-month period” during which an eligible employee is entitled to a combined total of 26 weeks of all types of FMLA leave.

Additional information on the amendments and a version of Title I of the FMLA with the new statutory language incorporated are available on the FMLA amendments Web site at http://www.dol.gov/esa/whd/fmla/NDAA_fmla.htm.



MAINE AUTOMOBILE DEALERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

180 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE

P. O. BOX 2667

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04338-2667

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

MAINE AUTOMOBILE DEALERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Please take notice that the Annual Meeting of the members of the corporation will be held at the Harborside Inn and Marina in Bar Harbor, Maine on Saturday, June 28, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. to transact the following business:

1. Election of the Board of Directors and other Officers of the Corporation.
2. To Receive the Annual Reports of the Treasurer and Officers of the Corporation.
3. To Receive the Report of Charles R. Gaunce
N.A.D.A. Director for Maine, on N.A.D.A.'s Activities.
4. To Receive the Annual Report of the M.A.D.A. Insurance Trust.
5. To Receive the Annual Report of the M.A.D.A. Workers Compensation Trust.
6. To Transact Such other and further Business as may legally come before Said Meeting.

Dated this 24th Day of April, 2008.

Attest:

Thomas T. Brown Jr.
Clerk