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SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS

ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE

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New, Smaller Plate Renewal Stickers Coming to Illinois Cars in January

SPRINGFIELD — New, smaller license plate renewal stickers will be distributed by the Secretary of State's Office beginning in January 2001 to those motorists with expiring plates.

"The sticker size was changed to accommodate the new design plates, which will be distributed for passenger cars later in the year. We have also incorporated better security measures into the sticker inventory process, so stickers can be tracked more easily through the law enforcement LEADS system," said Secretary of State Jesse White.

The new stickers are being distributed at the beginning of the calendar year of 2001, meaning some vehicles will receive the new stickers prior to their turn in the replating cycle. This includes some passenger cars in the first part of 2001 and all other vehicles, including B-trucks, which are not being replated until 2003.

To accommodate the new sticker's placement on current, old- design plates, those motorists will receive a blank sticker with the smaller renewal sticker. The blank sticker must first be affixed to cover up the old, larger sticker and then the new renewal sticker should be affixed on top of the right portion of the blank sticker.

"We are communicating this change because it may be confusing for some motorists having to affix two stickers instead of one," explained Secretary White. "The blank sticker is being applied so law enforcement personnel can make a quicker visual check that a vehicle is in compliance with the

law."

For the first time in the state's history, stickers will be individually inventoried and matched with a vehicle owner's assigned license plate in the Secretary of State system and in the LEADS system to fight sticker theft and fraud. The law enforcement community also consulted the Secretary of State's office on the design of the new stickers.

White also announced today that St. Clair Associated Vocational Enterprises, Inc. (SAVE), a not-for-profit sheltered care facility serving the developmentally disabled, has been awarded a contract to produce Illinois license plate renewal stickers.

Instructions for motorists will be printed on the renewal information and posted at Secretary of State Drivers facilities.

The 2002 expiration renewal sticker has black numbers on a white reflective background.