COMPTROLLER'S MEMORANDUM 1995-02

TO: ALL DEPARTMENT HEADS, DOE, UH, JUDICIARY

FROM: Eugene S. Imai, Comptroller

SUBJECT: Inscription on State Motor Vehicles
Chapter 105-6, HRS

This is to remind all State agencies of the subject statutory requirement for identification with the State seal and inscription on both sides of all State motor vehicles. A copy of the statute is enclosed for information.

Requests for exemption from this requirement shall be submitted to the Comptroller and include the following information:

1. Name(s) of assigned vehicle driver(s)
2. Vehicle license number, make and model
3. Reasons for requiring an unmarked vehicle

Exemptions may be granted for functions such as investigative and law enforcement operations when a marked State vehicle could hamper official use of the vehicle. Requests for unmarked vehicles to avoid public scrutiny of State vehicles parked after hours at residences, restaurants, and other non-business locations may not be sufficient justification for approval.

Please call me if you have any concerns on this matter.

Enclosure
§105-6 Inscription on state motor vehicles. Unless excepted, every motor vehicle owned or controlled by the State shall bear on both sides thereof a facsimile of the state seal and beneath the seal the words “For Official Use Only” and the name of the department, commission, board, bureau, office, agency, or instrumentality thereof controlling or possessing such motor vehicle. This section shall not apply to such motor vehicles as are furnished the governor, lieutenant governor, chief justice of the supreme court, and the president of the University of Hawaii or to such motor vehicles as are used in any ridesharing program of the State, for undercover investigative work, law enforcement and other functions as approved by the comptroller. [L 1919, c 227, pt of §2; RL 1945, pt of §463; am L 1949, c 389, pt of §1(b); RL 1955, §7-15; HRS §105-6; am L 1969, c 38, §1; am L 1981, c 49, §2]

§105-7 Inscription on county motor vehicles. Unless excepted every motor vehicle owned or controlled by any county shall bear on both sides thereof the following inscription: “For Official Use Only.” Underneath the inscription shall be the name or title of the county and the name of the department, commission, board, bureau, officer, agency, or instrumentality thereof controlling or possessing such motor vehicle; except that every motor vehicle owned or controlled by the board of water supply of the city and county of Honolulu shall bear on both sides thereof the following inscription: “Board of Water Supply - Conserve Water.” This section shall not apply to such motor vehicles as are furnished to the mayor of the city and county of Honolulu or to the chairman and executive officer of the board of supervisors of any county, to the chief of police and deputy chief of police of the city and county and counties or manager of the board of water supply of the city and county of Honolulu. [L 1919, c 227, pt of §2; RL 1945, pt of §463; am L 1949, c 389, pt of §1(b); RL 1955, §7-16; HRS §105-7]

§105-8 Character of inscription. The letters of such words as are required by sections 105-6 and 105-7 shall be painted or applied on all such motor vehicles in characters of a plain, bold size. [L 1919, c 227, pt of §2; RL 1945, §463; am L 1949, c 389, pt of §1(b); RL 1955, §7-17; HRS §105-8; am L 1969, c 38, §2]

§105-9 Duty of performance. The duty of carrying out sections 105-6 to 105-8, insofar as they relate to motor vehicles, the property, or under the control, of the State, shall be vested in the comptroller, and, insofar as they relate to the several counties, shall be vested in the respective county councils, and insofar as they relate to independent boards and commissions having charge of their own funds shall be vested in the respective boards or commissions. [L 1919, c 227, §3; RL 1945, §464; am L 1949, c 389, §1(c); RL 1955, §7-18; am L Sp 1959 2d, c 1, §12; HRS §105-9]

Revision Note

“County councils” substituted for “boards of supervisors or city council”.

§105-10 Motor vehicles; shelter. Except as otherwise permitted by section 105-2, every motor vehicle owned or controlled by the State, or by any county thereof, when not being used for official or governmental business or purposes, shall be kept in parking areas under cover if feasible at, or in the vicinity of, the office or place of business of the department, commission, board, bureau, officer, agency, or instrumentality controlling or possessing such motor vehicle. The comptroller, in the case of the State and the county councils, in the case of the counties, or the respective board or commission, in case of an independent board or commission having charge of its own funds, shall direct and see that this section is carried out, and, in that regard, each officer and each head of a department, commission, board, bureau, agency, or instrumentality controlling or possessing any such motor vehicle shall, when so directed, provide such parking areas and shelter for such motor vehicles controlled or possessed by him or it. [L 1949, c 389, pt of §1(d); RL 1955, §7-19; am L Sp 1959 2d, c 1, §12; HRS §105-10]