



Expired driver license?

I received my first driver's license two days after my 14th birthday – it was a motorcycle license. I was in the big time. It cost me about fifty cents to fill up my gas tank and I could drive a lot of miles on that tank.

At age 15½ I received my official permit to drive a car with a licensed driver of any age in the front seat. Wow, the speed limit was 70 miles per hour. Guess I am showing my age. Then at age 16 I had full rights to drive by myself, as long as my parents didn't ground me!

A driver license number was the individual's social security number unless they didn't have a social security number issued yet. People didn't need a social security card until they were employed. The actual driver license was printed on blue paper and there weren't any "twin-evil" photos on them either. The good news was that they were easy to replace and the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety would mail you a renewal notice before your license actually expired.

Things are different today. Effective November 1, 2007, a new state law tightened procedures for persons applying for a driver license or identity card. Proof of identity and proof of legal presence in the United States are included in the new law. This does not affect Oklahoma residents who are renewing, unless they allow their license to expire.

I have heard horror stories from people getting their expired driver license renewed! If the license is expired, the applicant must appear before a Driver Examiner to establish proof of legal presence in the United States and must present an original certified copy of their birth certificate. Do not have an original certified copy of their birth certificate? Then a trip to Oklahoma City to obtain one will be in order.

Long story short – don't let your driver license expire! The Oklahoma Department of Public Safety will now send an email as a reminder before a driver license expires. To get your email reminder go to www.dps.state.ok.us/ and click on "DL or ID Renewal Notification" on the right hand side of the page. All you provide is your name, driver license number and an email address – quick and simple.

As always, please call with any county concerns and/or District 2 road concerns at the District 2 Shop at 580-395-2859. You may also reach me on my cell at 580-541-8950 or Robert Moss, District 2 Foreman, on his cell at 580-541-8953. Furthermore, you may stop by the shop at 524 N. Front Street in Medford to voice any concerns about Grant County or just to visit.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy R. Bobbitt, Commissioner
Grant County District 2