

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
LAW ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION MEMO 95-1

DATE : June 30, 1995
TO : All Parking Agencies and Law Enforcement Agencies
SUBJECT : Identifying Authorized News Media Representatives

Purpose To provide information to aid law enforcement in identifying authorized news media representatives.

Back-ground The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) issues Press Photographer License Plates to authorized members of the media. Persons regularly employed or engaged as newspaper, newsreel, television photographers, or camera operators may apply for these special press photographer plates.

In California, authorized media representatives have statutory authority for access to emergency and disaster scenes (Penal Code Section 409.5 [d]). Authorized media representatives have media identification issued by a bona-fide public safety agency and/or identification issued by a bona-fide news gathering media organization.

Press Photo-grapher License Plate Press Photographer License Plates are designed with the letters "PP" inside a triangle placed to the left of a four-position numeric configuration on a white background.

Previously issued DMV Photographer License Plates include a blue background and a black background. These different colored plates remain valid.



Issuance Only one set of license plates can be issued to a press photographer and the license plate cannot be issued to trailers.

Continued on reverse

**Other
News
Media
Identifi-
cation**

To assist law enforcement in identifying media representatives, the Media Vehicle Placard issued by the Press Photographers Association of Greater Los Angeles and the California Press Photographers Association is now available.

The Media Vehicle Placard is 8 1/2 inches x 11 inches, bright fluorescent orange in color, with the letters "NEWS MEDIA" in bold letters across the front. The department has been advised that this placard may be used in addition to the Press Photographer License Plates. Validity of the media identification will verify the representative's credentials.



Contact

Questions regarding the Media Vehicle Placard may be directed to the California Press Photographers Association at (310) 493-4811.

Questions regarding the information contained in this memo may be directed to the User Coordination and Support Unit at (916) 657-7732 or CALNET 8-437-7732.

Susan Larson for
CAROLE WAGGONER BEDWELL, Chief
Program and Policy Administration

