

DECOMMISSIONED VEHICLES—EMERGENCY & NON-EMERGENCY

SUMMARY

State Statutes prohibit the use of color scheme combinations, badges, and colored lights that simulate or mimic law enforcement/public safety, making it unlawful for any person, other than law enforcement, to use such adopted colors. Violation of such statutes can be deemed as a threat to public safety. Currently the only state regulation that governs the decommissioning of law enforcement and public safety vehicles that are sold to the public is Chapter 319.14 of the Florida Statutes which 1) prohibits a person from knowingly selling, exchanging, or transferring a police vehicle without removing any police marking (i.e., decals, stickers, distinctive paint schemes, or other markings attached or applied to a police vehicle which identify the vehicle as a police vehicle), and 2) requires law enforcement agencies to provide an official letter of notification that the police markings have been removed.

Miami-Dade County has an obligation to prohibit the availability of unauthorized emergency equipment to the public. Therefore, the Internal Services Department (ISD) Fleet Management Division (FMD) will adhere to this process and procedures described herein when decommissioning vehicles under this category.

The decommissioning and auction process of County vehicles are governed under a combination of internal procedures, County Administrative Orders, State Statutes, and within the scopes of specific contracted services. The decommission process is accomplished in concert with the ISD FMD Bodyshop Section, the Information Technology Department (ITD) Radio Shop, and the ISD Materials Management Section (MMS).

All County vehicles and equipment that are decommissioned through ISD FMD will have all police markings, decals, logos, emergency lighting, computers, prisoner inserts, communication radio equipment, and all other law enforcement equipment and accessories properly removed prior to disposal or sale to the public. Any emergency lighting left on the vehicle will be made inoperable. Although parts of the process are performed by multiple departments, ISD FMD will ensure that the process is completed prior to disposal or sale to the public.

ISD FMD has adopted this procedure for vehicles under its purview. Any department that does not decommission vehicles through ISD FMD, such as Water and Sewer Department, Department of Solid Waste Management (heavy equipment only), Parks Recreation and Open Spaces (heavy equipment only), and Miami-Dade Aviation Department (light and heavy equipment) is responsible for developing its own internal procedure to properly decommission emergency and non-emergency vehicles.

DEFINITIONS

The word "equipment" means generators, maintenance trailers, radar and light trailers, and other specialty equipment.

The words "emergency lighting" means red and blue lights used by law enforcement and public safety officials.

PROCEDURE

Respective departments will notify ISD FMD of any vehicle and specialty equipment to be retired. Retired vehicles and specialty equipment shall be delivered to the ISD FMD Body Shop facility where they will be prepared for disposal and transferred to ISD MMS County Store. ISD FMD will take inventory of each

vehicle and specialty equipment and identify all items to be removed prior to disposal. All departments are responsible for removing GPS equipment, if applicable.

Specific procedures for emergency vehicles within certain departments are as follows:

Miami-Dade Police & Miami-Dade Corrections and Rehabilitation

- ITD Radio Shop
 - Remove emergency lighting, communication radio, and computer equipment; and
 - Make inoperable any emergency lighting left on the vehicle.
- ISD FMD
 - Coordinate the removal of all police markings, emergency/County decals and prisoner partitions through an awarded vendor on the County contract;
 - Remove spotlights and deliver to the County Store;
 - Remove and destroy Sunpass (e-mail serial number to Transportation Coordinator); and
 - Verify completion of disposal process and inform the ISD MMS County Store to proceed with sale.
- ISD MMS
 - For vehicles with police markings, provide the official letter or notification to the purchaser, customer or transferee confirming that the vehicle has had the police markings removed.

Miami-Dade Fire Rescue (MDFR)

- MDFR
 - Remove emergency lighting, communication radio, and computer equipment prior to sending the vehicle to ISD FMD for disposal; and
 - Prepare large fire apparatuses (i.e., fire trucks and ambulances) for disposal at MDFR's facility.
- ISD FMD
 - Coordinate the removal of all emergency/County decals through an awarded vendor on the County contract;
 - Remove and destroy Sunpass (e-mail serial number to Transportation Coordinator); and
 - Verify completion of disposal process and inform the County Store to proceed with sale.