

The Bureau of Control Surveys and Maps, established by the General Assembly of 1939 but inactive during World War II, was reactivated by the State Roads Commission in 1951. This Bureau is directed by an advisory board consisting of the Chief Engineer of the State Roads Commission, the Director of the Maryland State Planning Commission, the Director of the Department of Public Improvements, the Director of the Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources, and the Dean of the College of Engineering of the University of Maryland. The agency coordinates the activities of the various agencies engaged in mapping and surveying in the State; promotes the use of the Maryland Plane Coordinate System for engineering projects; through field observations, extends the control network for use in highway surveys; and maintains a complete file of control, both horizontal and vertical, available throughout the State. (Code 1951, Art. 91, secs. 30-33). The funds for the operation of the Bureau are provided in the budget of the State Roads Commission.

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

James B. Monroe, Commissioner, 1959

W. Dana Rudy, Deputy Commissioner

Owen R. E. McGeeney, Comptroller

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The Office of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles was established by the Acts of 1910. The Commissioner, who is appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate for a four-year term, serves as the Director of the Department.

The Department issues all drivers' licenses in the State, and applicants are required to pass an eye test, written examination of the Motor Vehicle Laws of Maryland, and a driving test. These examinations are conducted in Baltimore City and in twenty-three other cities and towns throughout the State. The Department titles and registers motor vehicles. It must issue a title before license plates. The Department collects an excise tax of two per cent of the fair value of the vehicle for each title issued. All commercial vehicles operating for hire within the State must file with the Department a certificate of Financial Responsibility Insurance in the amounts of \$10,000, \$20,000, and \$5,000 and obtain a gratis permit to be carried with the vehicle at all times. All persons involved in accidents resulting in personal injuries or any property damage in excess of \$75.00 must file a report with the Department and comply with the provisions of the Financial Responsibility Law. All persons who fail to pay judgments in excess of \$25.00 are subject to the Financial Responsibility Law.

The Department maintains a record of each individual driver who has been convicted of violating the motor vehicle laws. It conducts hearings to determine whether or not the driver's license should be suspended or revoked as a result of a motor vehicle conviction; if he is proved physically or mentally unfit to drive, his case comes before the Department's Medical Advisory Board for final decision. He may appeal to the Courts from the decision of the Commissioner, except in those cases where the revocation is mandatory.

All fees collected for the registration and titling of motor vehicles and all fines collected are deposited by the Department to the credit of the Motor Vehicles Revenue Fund (Code 1951, Art. 66½, secs.