

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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December 6, 1966

Linwood Ross, Deputy

Secretary of State

George C. West, Deputy

Attorney General

Renting of Motor Vehicles by Dealers

You have been asked concerning the actions of some motor vehicle dealers in renting motor vehicles bearing the dealer's plates. Such action by a dealer is improper.

29 M.R.S.A. § 331 provides for the issuance of dealer plates "instead of registering each motor vehicle owned or controlled by him." It further states:

"Such certificate of registration shall . . . and all vehicles owned or controlled by such applicant shall be regarded as registered under such general distinguishing number, color or mark until sold, exchanged or operated for hire." (Emphasis supplied).

A motor vehicle rented by a dealer to another person is "operated for hire." Hence, such a motor vehicle is not registered under the dealer registration.

George C. West
Deputy Attorney General

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