

STATE OF MAINE

Inter-Departmental Memorandum Date November 9, 1976

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Dept. State, Motor Vehicles

From Leon V. Walker, Jr., Assistant

Dept. Attorney General

Subject Use of Dealer Plates

FACTS:

A new car dealer has been loaning to customers one of his cars bearing a new car dealer plate, while service is being performed on the customers' vehicles.

QUESTION:

May a dealer use his dealer plates for this purpose?

ANSWER:

No. 29 M.R.S.A. § 354 provides as follows:

"Vehicles owned or controlled by . . . dealers may be operated using dealer registration plates under the following conditions only: . . . "

Then appear a list of five limited uses for such plates (A through E), none of which pertains to use by customers.

29 M.R.S.A. § 361 provides for the use of loaner plates "on vehicles owned by the holder of a loaner registration license for the <u>sole purpose</u> of loaning such vehicles to customers when the customer's properly registered vehicle is disabled and in garage for repairs. . . . " These are the only plates which may be so used.

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