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# New Mandatory License Plates Take Effect March 1, BMV Says

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**New BMV license plate commemorating the USVI's 175th Emancipation. By. BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLE**

The Bureau of Motor Vehicle on Monday announced that effective March 1, all vehicles with temporary plates that were issued by the BMV will be exchanged at no cost for the new, mandatory VI 175th Emancipation Commemorative Plates. The bureau said an appointment is required.

BMV said all other vehicles will be issued the new plates during the registration process only. In order to complete the registration, process the old plates must be removed and returned to the BMV; failure to do so will impede the registration process.

If you are 65 and over the plate is free," the bureau said. Personalized plates will be charged \$49 and vanity plates will continue to be charged by the organization issuing those plates.

If you renew your registration online, you will be able to pay for the new plate, however you do not need an appointment to come in to return the old plates and pick up your new plates, BMV said. The new plate will not be mailed to you.

Send an email to [bmv.vi.gov](mailto:info@bmv.vi.gov) if you need further information or need clarification. To make an appointment go to [bmv.vi.gov](http://bmv.vi.gov), or email send an email to [info@bmv.vi.gov](mailto:info@bmv.vi.gov), or call the offices: St Croix-340-713-4268, St Thomas-340-7744268; St John -340-776-6262.

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