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January 18, 2012

SPECIAL ORDER NO: 23-1201

TO: All Automotive Safety Enforcement Division (ASED) Personnel and
All Authorized Inspection Station Personnel

SUBJECT: Notice of Amendments to the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR);
Purchase of New Vehicle Inspection Handbook by Authorized Inspection
Stations; Issuance of Division Special Orders for new Vehicle Inspection
Handbook; and Cancellation of Listed Special Orders

PURPOSE:

- A. To provide all Division and Authorized Inspection Station personnel with information regarding amendments to COMAR - Vehicle Inspections, effective February 1, 2012.
- B. To require all Authorized Inspection Stations to purchase a new Vehicle Inspection Handbook from the Division of State Documents by April 30, 2012.
- C. To provide all Division and Authorized Inspection Station personnel with access to all active Division vehicle inspection Special Orders and instructions on their placement in the new Vehicle Inspection Handbook.
- D. To provide all Division and Authorized Inspection Station personnel with notification of cancellation of Special Order No. 23-9526; 23-0006; 23-0113; 23-0304; and 23-0803.

POLICY:

- A. Amendments to the Code of Maryland Regulations

The proposed amendments to the Code of Maryland Regulations submitted to the Division of State Documents by the Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Administration and the Secretary of the Department of State Police regarding vehicle inspections and safety standards shall become effective **February 1, 2012**.

Amendments have been made to the following regulations:

**Title 11 Department of Transportation, Subtitle 14 Motor Vehicle
Administration – Vehicle Inspections**

Chapter 01 General Inspection

.01 Definitions; .03 Personnel Requirements; .04 Administrative Penalties;
.06 Inspection Area Requirements; .07 Inspection Test Equipment and Tools;
.10 Obligations of Authorized Inspection Stations, Maryland Manufacturers, Second-Stage
Manufacturers, and Dealers; .11 Records; .14 Vehicle Sale or Transfer of Ownership;
.15 Inspection Certificate; and .16 Safety Equipment Repair Orders.

**Chapter 02 Safety Standards for Passenger Cars, Taxicabs, Light Trucks, Vans,
Multipurpose Passenger Vehicles, and Type II School Vehicles**

.01 Applicability; .06 Exhaust System; .12 Interior and Emergency Equipment—Applicable to
Type II School Vehicles Only; .14 Vehicle Glazing; and .17 Doors, Handles and Latches.

**Chapter 04 Safety Standards for Trucks, Truck Tractors, Commercial Buses, and Type I
School Vehicles**

.14 Interior and Emergency Equipment—Applicable to School Vehicles Only; .16 Vehicle
Glazing; and .19 Doors, Handles, and Latches.

B. Purchase of new Vehicle Inspection Handbook

The Division of State Documents has recently redesigned the look and usefulness of the printed Code of Maryland Regulations. The newest printed version is in 8-1/2 x 11 format. The 6 x 9 format is no longer available for purchase. As a result of amendments to COMAR and the redesign by the Division of State Documents of the regulations, all authorized inspections stations will be required to purchase a new vehicle inspection handbook from the Division of State Documents by **April 30, 2012**.

C. Existing and future ASED Special Orders related to the Vehicle Inspection Program

Due to the redesign of the printed COMAR into the new 8-1/2 x 11 format and the new amendments to the regulations, the Division will reproduce currently required Division vehicle inspection Special Orders (green sheets) and future Special Orders in an 8-1/2 x 11 format. A document titled "Special Order Table of Contents" will also be developed which will list all required Division Special Orders and designate their placement in the new Vehicle Inspection Handbook.

D. Cancellation of Special Orders

Due to amendments to the Code of Maryland Regulations (Vehicle Inspection Handbook) the following Special Orders shall be cancelled and removed from the handbook effective February 1, 2012:

23-9526 Subject – Add on Window Tinting (dated September 8, 1995)

23-0006 Subject – Additional Required Tools For Class “M” Inspection Stations (dated March 14, 2000)

23-0113 Subject – Certification of Safety Equipment Repair Orders for Window Tint Violations (dated April 10, 2001)

23-0304 Subject – Additional Required Tool for Class A, C, D, R and F Inspection Stations (dated April 16, 2003)

23-0803 Subject – Additional Required Tool for Class “M” Inspection Stations (dated May 27, 2008)

PROCEDURES:

A. To enable the Division and authorized inspection station personnel to become familiar with the new amendments to the vehicle inspection regulations and permit the implementation of these regulations on February 1, 2012, the Division has provided a preview of the new regulations on our website, www.mdsp.org/ased . In order to access the new regulations, please following steps:

1. Click on the “Downloads” link on the left side of the home page.
2. Click on “Amended Code of Maryland Regulations (Feb 2012)”.
3. Each amended regulation will be listed and contain amended language in ***bold italic***. Until a new Vehicle Inspection Handbook obtained from the Division of State Documents containing the newly enacted regulations is in your possession, Division and Authorized Inspection Station personnel shall be required to review, become thoroughly familiar with and be guided by the new regulations posted on the Division’s website which become effective on February 1, 2012.
4. All Authorized Inspection Stations are required to print the download titled “Amended Code of Maryland Regulations (Feb 2012)” and shall maintain a copy in the current Vehicle Inspection Handbook until the acquisition of the new handbook.

B. To assist authorized inspection stations in purchasing a **new vehicle inspection handbook** from the Division of State Documents, a blank order form will be posted on the

Division's website (www.mdsp.org/ased) under "Downloads" link on the left side of the home page. Please print and complete the order form along with payment and mail to:

Office of the Secretary of State
Division of State Documents
State House
Annapolis, MD. 21401

****NOTICE ****

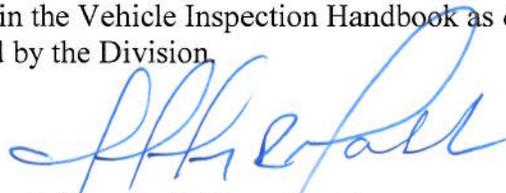
Authorized Inspection Stations are requested not to order a new Vehicle Inspection Handbook until February 1, 2012 to insure that the handbook contains the newly enacted regulations.

C. To enable the Division and authorized inspection station personnel access to required Division vehicle inspection Special Orders, the Division will post the Special Orders on the Division's website (www.mdsp.org/ased) under "Downloads" link on the left side of the home page. Authorized Inspection Stations will be required to print each listed Special Order and insert it in their new Vehicle Inspection Handbook as directed in the Special Order Table of Contents.

If unable to access the Division's website and/or print any required information once it is made available on the website, station personnel are to contact their station's assigned ASED Trooper or Vehicle Safety Inspector.

This order supersedes all other orders or memorandums in conflict therewith.

This special order is to be inserted in the Vehicle Inspection Handbook as directed in the Special Order Table of Contents issued by the Division.



Jeffrey R. Gahler - Captain
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Department of State Police