

PRESS RELEASE

NEW COLORADO LAW – INCREASED FEE

The Pitkin County Clerk & Recorder's office has received notice that the late fee increase associated with Senate Bill 09-108, passed by legislation on March 3, 2009, becomes effective June 1, 2009.

What does this mean if you own a vehicle? All vehicles (cars, trucks, trailers, motorcycles, RV's, SMM, etc.) must be registered at all times to avoid a registration late fee of \$25 per month, up to \$100.

For example:

- If motor vehicle renewal registrations due in April 2009 are not paid on or before the end of the grace period (last day in May 2009), a "mandatory" late fee of \$25 will be imposed, and \$25 each month thereafter up to \$100 until registered.
- If motor vehicle renewal registrations due in January 2009 or prior to that date are not paid on or before June 1, 2009, a "mandatory" late fee of \$100 will be imposed.
- Vehicles purchased by Colorado residents will be assessed late fees 61 days after the purchase date, if the vehicle is not registered.
- Vehicles subject to temporary permits, if expired, are also subject to the late fees.
- Vehicle owners who move to Colorado from out of state and do not register their vehicles within 90 days of establishing residency will be charged late fees up to \$100.

The legislation requires that **late fees are mandatory, with no discretion to waive**. The only exceptions to a waiver of the late fees are the "active military" exemption and the "commercial business idle" exemption. For more information regarding exemptions, individuals should inquire with Motor Vehicle Staff.

Unfortunately, the April and May registration renewal notices have already been printed and mailed WITHOUT the above information. Renewal Notices are sent as a courtesy by Pitkin County Clerk and Recorder Motor Vehicle Department, and are not required by law.

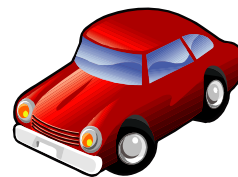
It is each vehicle owner's responsibility to take appropriate action to ensure all vehicles are registered accordingly, in the State of Colorado, to avoid a mandatory late fee charge of \$25 per month, up to \$100 until registered.

Remember, registration fees go to the State of Colorado for State road and bridge improvements for your safety.

For more information, go to www.aspenpitkin.com

FOR MORE DETAIL, continue

NEW COLORADO LAW – INCREASED FEES



PREPARE FOR AN INCREASE IN LATE REGISTRATION FEES 6/1/09 AND HIGHER REGISTRATION FEES 7/1/09

Senate Bill 09-108 was signed into law on March 3rd, and represents an increase in late registration fees and the largest increase in vehicle registration fees in many years.

Late Registration Fees

One aspect of this bill that has not been widely publicized involves a mandatory fine for late registration. The fee will be **\$25.00 per month** for every month or portion of a month that a vehicle is not registered after the 30-day grace period, **not to exceed \$100**. The late fee also applies to Temporary permits; however, Temporary permits have no grace period. Also, the late fee is in addition to the standard registration fee. Pitkin County presently has a \$10.00 late fee that will be replaced by the new late fee structure, as of **June 1, 2009**.

Higher Registration Fees

Two parts to the registration fee increase include a Road Safety Surcharge and a Bridge Safety Surcharge, both go into effect July 1, 2009. The Bridge Safety Surcharge incorporates incremental increases over the next three years. See table on reverse side for further information.

As a general rule, registration fees are based on the weight of the vehicle, which can be found under the CWT section on your registration. To arrive at your vehicle weight, take the number under CWT on your registration and multiply it by 100. Beginning this July, the average car registration (weighing 2001 lbs. to 5000 lbs.) will increase by \$32.00. Motorcycles and very light-weight vehicles (2000 lbs. or less) will increase by \$22.50. An average pick-up (5001 lbs. to 10,000 lbs.) will increase by \$39.50, and larger trucks will see an increase of \$51.50 to \$55.00. The fee increase does extend to utility and camper trailers as well, based on their weight.

The Bridge Safety Surcharge fee included in the bill is phased in over three years, so registration will continue to increase over the three year period by 50%, 75% and 100% respectively. For example, the average car will cost \$32.00 in FY 2009-2010, \$36.50 in FY 2010-2011, and \$41.00 in FY 2011-2012. Other vehicle types will experience similarly stated increases over the three-year period.

