



**ATTENTION: Official Inspection Stations, Quality Assurance Officers,
and Pennsylvania State Police**

BI16-01

Vehicle Inspection Division Bulletin

January 2016

Announcement: Safety Inspector Recertification
Topics: Required Notifications
The Use of Uncertified Inspectors

**ANNOUNCEMENT:
SAFETY INSPECTOR RECERTIFICATION**

Beginning in the spring of 2016, PennDOT's vehicle safety inspector recertification is changing. Safety inspection regulations have been updated to expand the period of recertification from three years to five years. Additionally, a new five-year recertification exam is being introduced. PennDOT has worked with the industry associations on the exam and training recertification development. Per 67 Pa. Code §175.28, "A mechanic shall be certified for no more than 5 years. Mechanics may renew their mechanic certification by passing the required examination within 180 days of notification from the Department that their mechanic card is due to expire." The new recertification will be good for five years. Recertification reminder notices will be sent 180 days prior to expiration to the individual safety inspectors. The on-line training will be available in the spring of 2016.

All safety recertification may be done online through a standard internet browser connection using a personal computer. Registration, training materials, and the exam may be completed by accessing an online web portal. Safety inspectors may choose to take the exam only, or may choose the on-line refresher training option and exam. Additionally, PennDOT contracted authorized schools may offer the training. Refresher training either on-line or with a school is recommended.

Beginning in the spring of 2016, safety inspectors will receive specific instruction in their renewal notices regarding access to the exam. A toll free number will be provided should they have any questions. Safety inspectors who have recently renewed without taking an exam are only renewed for three years, and will be in the rotation to take the exam upon expiration of their recertification.

**TOPIC:
REQUIRED NOTIFICATIONS**

Per 67 Pa. Code §175.29 Obligations of Stations, inspection stations are obligated to notify the Department when changes occur in their business, such as change of ownership, change of location, discontinuance of business, change whenever a certified inspector or persons authorized to purchase stickers changes, whenever stickers are lost, damaged or stolen, a change in post office address, change in company name, and *when the person who signed the MV-427 who is in charge of the station is no longer in charge or has been replaced*. Notification of any change should be immediately reported to your assigned Quality Assurance Officer. Please be advised that regulations indicate that a Failure to Notify the Department of a change for a station's first offense will result in a four month suspension.

THE USE OF UNCERTIFIED INSPECTORS

Per 67 Pa. Code §175.28 Certified Inspection Mechanics, requires that every inspection shall be performed by a certified inspection mechanic. At no time should a station allow or encourage an uncertified mechanic to perform safety inspections on vehicles, as this practice will result in suspensions for both the station and the mechanic. On-the-job training using an uncertified mechanic requires the mechanic to merely observe the inspection being performed by a certified mechanic who is responsible for the complete inspection.

If you have any questions, please contact the Vehicle Inspection Division at (717) 787-2895.

Anita M. Wasko, Director
Bureau of Motor Vehicles

Kay E. Kishbaugh, Chief
Vehicle Inspection Division
Bureau of Motor Vehicles