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CITIZEN CORNER

A QUARTERLY CIRCULAR BY POLICE CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY

'DIGITAL PROOF OF MOTOR VEHICLE DOCUMENTS IN JAMAICA'

Are You Digitally Covered?

Have you ever wondered if you could show members of the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) digital proof that your motor vehicle documents are up-to-date?

Jamaica's laws now allow motorists to show electronic versions of insurance, registration and fitness documents when stopped by JCF members.

What does Electronic Proof of Motor Vehicle Documents look like?

Generally, a motorist, when stopped, was required to produce an original physical insurance certificate, or a photocopy duly certified by a Justice of Peace (JP). They were also required to show their registration and fitness documents with the decal being appropriately displayed on their vehicles. But rather than having to look for your insurance, registration and fitness papers, now you can simply show the JCF member, on your phone, the digital/electronic/soft copy.

The digital/electronic version of the insurance papers would be sent to your email by your insurance company. Also, the Electronic Motor Vehicle Registration Certificate (EMVRC) and Electronic Fitness (E-Fitness) will be issued and



Digital Motor Vehicle Documents

made accessible online via a secure portal known as the "Certificate Service Portal" found on the Certificate Generation and Distribution System (CGDS), which is linked to the Tax Administration of Jamaica (TAJ) Website.

This means that a motorist who shows these digitized documents **should not be issued with a ticket** for failing to produce physical copies.

In fact, **section 106 of the Road Traffic Act (2018)** allows motorists to show proof that their vehicle is insured. In addition, the **Road Traffic Amendment Act (2025)**, have extended legal provisions, effective from July 21, 2025, that now require police officers to accept digitized versions of the fitness and registration documents. The law has also removed the issuing of decals and the requirement for them to be displayed on motor vehicles.

Thus, in the eyes of the law, once indisputable digital evidence is shown of up-to-date motor vehicle documents, the motorist should not be penalized by JCF members.

Conclusion

As the JCF continues to undergo its transformation into a force for good, with all the rapid and constant technological changes happening in Jamaica, the law allowing for electronic proof of up-to-date motor vehicle documents should make things easier or more convenient for motorists while allowing for more efficient policing on the part of JCF members.

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