



NEW DRIVER'S LICENSE/IDENTIFICATION CARD SECURITY FEATURE FACT SHEET

PennDOT began using a new, state-of-the-art security feature on December 5, 2011.

WHAT IS IT AND WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

The new security feature is a black and white hologram, wherein "PA" sits inside the Keystone symbol surrounded by a circle.



To view a sample driver's license with the new security feature, visit PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services website at www.dmv.state.pa.us under the Identity/Security Information Center.

To see an animation of the holograms on a Driver's License, go to ...

<http://www.dmv.state.pa.us/idSecurityCenter/animation.shtml>

WHY IS PENNDOT ADDING THIS NEW SECURITY FEATURE?

With an already impressive array of security features, PennDOT added this new element to driver's licenses and photo IDs in order to provide a quick, easy form of identification verification - even under limited light - to bars, banks, law enforcement and others. An on-going process, the addition of this latest feature is indicative of PennDOT's efforts to improve security and to mitigate counterfeiting while providing a security feature that people can easily see.

WHERE WILL THE NEW SECURITY FEATURE BE PLACED ON THE DRIVER'S LICENSE/IDENTIFICATION CARDS?

The new security feature includes two symbols that will be placed over both photo images on the driver's license and identification card.

WHAT IS SO UNIQUE ABOUT THE NEW ELEMENT?

Produced by state-of-the-art holographic technology; this feature is designed to suppress the color spectrum "rainbow" of normal holography. The result is the striking effect of a black versus white hologram at high resolution. The black and white areas reverse when viewing angle is changed by 90 degrees and is visible in bright, moderate and low-light environments.

(more)

HOW WILL I KNOW IF I HAVE A DRIVER'S LICENSE/IDENTIFICATION CARD WITH THE NEW FEATURE?

View the driver's license or photo identification so that the Keystone can be seen.

- Note that the feature is colorless and appears black and white.

Without changing the angle of the viewing, rotate the card 90 degrees left or right.

- The black and white elements will switch; the black becoming white and the white becoming black within the design.

For night time or low light authentication, use a flashlight held at about a 30 to 60 degree angle to the card surface so that the feature appears.

- Rotate either the card or the flashlight 90 degrees and the feature will switch the black and white elements within its design.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE FOR EVERYONE TO HAVE A DRIVER'S LICENSE/IDENTIFICATION CARD WITH THE NEW FEATURE?

Since driver's licenses and identification cards are issued on a four-year cycle, it will take four years for every driver's license/identification card holder to have a product with the new security feature.

IF I DON'T WANT TO WAIT UNTIL I RENEW, HOW DO I GET A DRIVER'S LICENSE/IDENTIFICATION CARD WITH THE NEW SECURITY FEATURE?

You can complete an Application for Change/Correction/Replacement of Non-Commercial Driver's License (DL-80) or an Application to Replace/Correct Commercial Driver's License (DL-80CD) and pay the applicable fee. These applications can be downloaded from PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services website at www.dmv.state.pa.us.

DO ANY OTHER STATES OR JURISDICTIONS USE THIS NEW SECURITY FEATURE ON DRIVER'S LICENSES OR PHOTO IDS?

No. Pennsylvania is the first state in the USA to use this new security feature on driver's licenses and IDs.

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News for Immediate Release

Dec. 5, 2011

Pennsylvania First in Nation to Adopt New Driver License Security Feature New Hologram Makes Spotting 'Fakes' Easier

Harrisburg – The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation today deployed a new security hologram that makes it easier to spot fake drivers' licenses and identification cards. Pennsylvania is the first state in the nation to use this enhanced security feature.

"A driver's license or identification card has always been a trusted source for establishing a person's true identity," said PennDOT Secretary Barry J. Schoch. "We are steadfast in our resolve to combat counterfeit forms of identification, which ultimately jeopardize lives and hold great potential for harm to our national security."

The new hologram suppresses the "rainbow" colors normally associated with holographic images. The result is a hologram that appears to switch between white and black as the image is moved. Also, because the new image is of a much higher resolution, it is clearly visible in bright, moderate and even low-light environments.

This state-of-the-art technology is added to an array of security features including a holographic overlay of county names and keystone outlines already embedded in current license and ID cards.

For more information and to see an example of the new security feature, visit PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services website at www.dmv.state.pa.us and click on Identity/Security.

Media contact: Jan McKnight, 717-787-0485 or Craig Yetter, 717-705-1092

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December 5, 2011

Dear PennDOT Partner:

Today, PennDOT began issuing driver licenses and identification cards statewide featuring a new laminate containing a new security feature. It is anticipated that all products issued to customers will contain the new security feature in four years.

With this roll out, all driver's license (DL) products, including photo identification (Photo ID) cards, will be outfitted with a new overlay and security feature which will aid in mitigating the risk for fraud. This is a subtle change that will not impact PennDOT's customers. The new overlay and security features have been communicated to law enforcement, as they need to be aware of the changes.

The new element on driver's licenses and photo IDs provides law enforcement and businesses, such as bars and banks, one additional way to spot a fake form of identification at a glance. The ability to quickly check the validity of an ID holds the potential to thwart illegal activities from identity theft to underage drinking - both potentially harmful, or in some cases, deadly acts.

The feature is designed to suppress the color spectrum "rainbow" of normal holography. The result is the striking effect of a black versus white hologram at high resolution. The black and white areas reverse when viewing angle is changed by 90 degrees and is visible in bright, moderate and low-light environments.

For more information and to view an image of the new security feature, please visit PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services Web site, www.dmv.state.pa.us, under the "Identity/Security Information Center."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet L. Dolan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Janet L. Dolan, Director

Bureau of Driver Licensing