

171.12 DRIVING RECORD; FILING; PRIVATE DATA.

Subdivision 1. **Licenses filed in alphabetical order.** (a) The department shall file every application for a driver's license received by it and shall maintain suitable indices containing, in alphabetical order:

(1) all applications denied and the reason for denial;

(2) all applications granted; and

(3) the name of every person whose license has been suspended, revoked, or canceled or who has been disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle by the department, and after each name the reasons for the action.

(b) Notwithstanding section 260B.171 or 260C.171, data revealing that the reason for the action under paragraph (a), clause (3) is an order of the juvenile court are accessible to the public.

Subd. 2. **Accident report and record of conviction filed.** The department shall file all accident reports and abstracts of court records of convictions and violations received by it under the laws of this state and its political subdivisions, and in connection therewith maintain convenient records or make suitable notations in order that an individual record of each licensee showing the convictions of such licensee and the traffic accidents in which the licensee has been involved shall be readily ascertainable and available for the consideration of the department upon any application for renewal of license and the revocation, suspension, or limitation of licenses.

Subd. 2a. **Alcohol concentration on driving record.** When a person's driver's license or permit to drive is revoked or suspended pursuant to section 169A.52, or when a person is convicted for violating section 169A.20, 169A.31, 169A.33, 360.0752, or 609.21, and a test of the person's breath, urine, or blood has been made to determine the person's alcohol concentration, the commissioner of public safety shall record the test results on the person's driving record pertaining to that violation. The alcohol concentration is classified as public data on individuals, as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 15, and must be kept for the period of time specified in subdivision 3, clause (3).

Subd. 3. **Application and record, when destroyed.** The department may cause applications for drivers' licenses, provisional licenses, and instruction permits, and related records, to be destroyed immediately after the period for which issued, except that:

(1) the driver's record pertaining to revocations, suspensions, cancellations, disqualifications, convictions, and accidents is cumulative and must be kept for a period of at least five years;

(2) the driver's record pertaining to violations of a driver or vehicle out-of-service order must be kept for a period of at least ten years; and

(3) the driver's record pertaining to felony convictions in the commission of which a motor vehicle was used, to the alcohol-related offenses and licensing actions listed in section 169A.03, subdivisions 20 and 21, to violations of section 169.09, to violations of section 169A.31, and to violations of section 171.24, subdivision 5, must be retained permanently.

Subd. 3a. **Record destroyed when order rescinded.** Notwithstanding subdivision 3 or section 138.163, when an order for revocation, suspension, or cancellation of a driver's license or disqualification of a driver from operating a commercial motor vehicle is rescinded and all rights of appeal have been exhausted or have expired, the commissioner shall remove the record of that revocation, suspension, cancellation, or disqualification from the computer records that are disclosed to persons or agencies outside the Driver and Vehicle Services Division, Department of Public Safety.

Subd. 3b. **Record of improper suspension destroyed.** Notwithstanding subdivision 3 or section 138.163, when an order for suspension of a driver's license issued pursuant to section 171.186 is rescinded because the license was improperly suspended and all rights of appeal have been exhausted or have expired, the commissioner shall remove the record of that suspension from the computer records that are disclosed to persons or agencies outside the Driver and Vehicle Services Division of the Department of Public Safety.

Subd. 4. [Repealed, 1976 c 2 s 69]

Subd. 5. **Donor document.** The department shall file all donor documents received by it, and in connection therewith maintain convenient records in order that donor status shall be readily ascertainable. On request of any interested party upon or after the donor's death, the department shall produce the donor document for examination.

Subd. 5a. **Veteran designation.** When an applicant for a driver's license, instruction permit, or Minnesota identification card requests a veteran designation under section 171.06, subdivision 3, the commissioner shall maintain a computer record of veteran designations. The veteran designation may be removed from the computer record only upon written notice to the department. The veteran designation is classified as private data on individuals as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 12, except that this information is available to the commissioner of veterans affairs for the purpose of administering veterans benefits.

Subd. 6. **Certain convictions not recorded.** (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), the department shall not keep on the record of a driver any conviction for a violation of a speed limit of 55 or 60 miles per hour unless the violation consisted of a speed greater than ten miles per hour in excess of a 55 miles per hour speed limit, or more than five miles per hour in excess of a 60 miles per hour speed limit.

(b) This subdivision does not apply to (1) a violation that occurs in a commercial motor vehicle, or (2) a violation committed by a holder of a class A, B, or C commercial driver's license, without regard to whether the violation was committed in a commercial motor vehicle or another vehicle.

Subd. 7. **Privacy of data.** (a) Data on individuals provided to obtain a driver's license or Minnesota identification card shall be treated as provided by United States Code, title 18, section 2721, as in effect on May 23, 2005, and shall be disclosed as required or permitted by that section.

(b) An applicant for a driver's license or a Minnesota identification card may consent, in writing, to the commissioner to disclose the applicant's personal information exempted by United States Code, title 18, section 2721, to any person who makes a request for the personal information. If the applicant so authorizes disclosures, the commissioner shall implement the request and the information may be used.

(c) If authorized by an applicant for a driver's license or a Minnesota identification card, as indicated in paragraph (b), the applicant's personal information may be used, rented, or sold solely for bulk distribution by organizations for business purposes, including surveys, marketing, or solicitation.

(d) An applicant for a driver's license, instruction permit, or Minnesota identification card may request that the applicant's residence address be classified as "private data on individuals," as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 12. The commissioner shall grant the classification on receipt of a signed statement by the individual that the classification is required for the safety of the applicant or the applicant's family, if the statement also provides a valid, existing address where the applicant consents to receive service of process. The commissioner shall use the service for process mailing address in place of the residence address in all documents and notices pertaining to the driver's license, instruction permit, or Minnesota identification card. The residence address and any information provided in the classification request, other than the mailing address, are private data on individuals and may be provided to requesting law enforcement agencies, probation and parole agencies, and public authorities, as defined in section 518A.26, subdivision 18.

Subd. 7a. **Disclosure of personal information.** The commissioner shall disclose personal information where the use is related to the operation of a motor vehicle or to public safety. The use of personal information is related to public safety if it concerns the physical safety or security of drivers, vehicles, pedestrians, or property. The commissioner may refuse to disclose data under this subdivision when the commissioner concludes that the requester is likely to use the data for illegal, improper, or noninvestigative purposes.

Subd. 8. [Repealed, 1Sp2005 c 6 art 2 s 48]

Subd. 9. **Driving record disclosure to law enforcement.** The commissioner shall also furnish driving records, without charge, to chiefs of police, county sheriffs, prosecuting attorneys, and other law enforcement agencies with the power to arrest.

History: (2720-144i) 1939 c 401 s 12; 1943 c 610 s 3; 1967 c 205 s 1; 1969 c 871 s 2; 1975 c 393 s 2; 1986 c 444; 1986 c 454 s 24; 1988 c 670 s 10; 1989 c 307 s 24; 1990 c 461 s 2; 1993 c 266 s 25; 1993 c 326 art 11 s 3,4; 1994 c 501 s 4-6; 1994 c 615 s 19; 1994 c 618 art 1 s 25; 1995 c 257 art 1 s 10; 1995 c 259 art 1 s 37; 1996 c 440 art 1 s 43,44; 1996 c 455 art 1 s 9; 1Sp1997 c 2 s 53; 1998 c 371 s 9; 1998 c 388 s 19; 1999 c 139 art 4 s 2; 2000 c 478 art 2 s 7; 2002 c 368 s 2; 2004 c 283 s 11,15; 2005 c 163 s 78; 2005 c 164 s 29; 1Sp2005 c 6 art 3 s 68,69; 1Sp2005 c 7 s 28; 2007 c 54 art 3 s 3; 2008 c 277 art 1 s 24; 2009 c 94 art 3 s 12