

Revenue REVIEW

A Quarterly Publication of the Alabama Department of Revenue

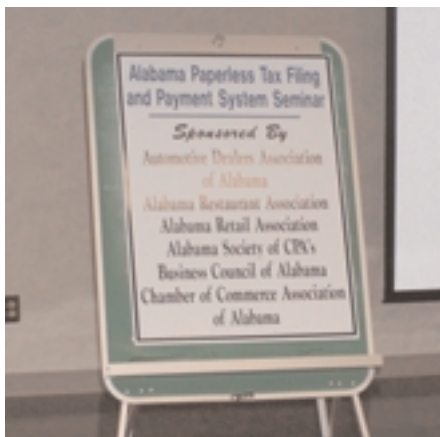
4th
Quarter
FY 2003

ADOR Implements Paperless Filing System



An attentive crowd of both local and outer-area business taxpayers views a sample screen for e-file payment.

The Alabama Department of Revenue introduced its new Paperless Filing System at a series of free seminars held during September and October for those business taxpayers filing state and local sales, lodgings, use and rental tax returns.



The sign greeting business taxpayers attending Montgomery's seminar.

The new paperless system, effective Oct. 1, 2003, will be initiated with the returns due Nov. 20, 2003. Taxpayers may file free of charge via the Internet or telephone, using the department's new 1-800 number. The department will no longer accept paper-filed returns, unless a waiver has been granted.

The seminars, held in key statewide locations, were held with the assistance of the following business associations: the Automotive Dealers Association of Alabama, the Alabama Restaurant Association, the Alabama Retail Association, the Alabama Society of CPAs, the Business Council of Alabama, and the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama.

ADOR representatives Don Graham, Manager of Special Projects, and Donna Joyner, Manager of the Local and Electronic Tax Coordination Unit in the Sales, Use and Business Tax Division, spoke at the seminars, walking attendees through the



Don Graham, Special Projects Manager of the ADOR Sales, Use and Business Tax Division, explains the required information needed to make a payment using the Alabama e-file system.

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AICPA Names Mike Mason to Panel

Mike Mason, Director of Tax Policy for the Alabama Department of Revenue, has been appointed to serve on a special committee of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.



According to Mason, committee members of the AICPA Virtual Grassroots Panel are tasked with responding to online requests for advice and information relevant to the accounting profession in the areas of both eCommerce and eBusiness.

"The group is enlarging to move to an electronic format without in-person meetings," explains Mason. "We will continue to be a grassroots sounding board and advisory group of members from various segments of the profession. Our purpose is to provide input and feedback via online survey questions, conversations and e-mails, to the Institute's leadership, Strategic Planning Committee and others regarding current events in the accounting profession, AICPA initiatives, emerging opportunities and threats, and most importantly, 'forward-looking' items for the profession."

What's New?

ADOR's Web site introduced a new search feature for individual and corporate income tax forms just in time for the upcoming filing season. Web site visitors no longer need to scroll through long lists of income tax forms, returns and instructions to find the document they need. Key word searches prompt displays of form links.

Paperless Filing System

(Continued from Page 1)

process of electronic filing and payment of state and local sales, consumers use, sellers use, rental and lodgings taxes.

According to Graham, the state will save approximately a million dollars a year, with the initial project cost being \$200,000. Response thus far has been good.

"Through the last week of October, we had approximately 23, 636 filings through the new paperless system. Of that number, 3, 718 were filed through the telephone," said Graham. "This is remarkable response

since this is the first month before electronic filing was mandated. Many taxpayers are excited about the service and wanted to try the system even before the mandate."

State Revenue Commissioner Dwight Carlisle, commenting on the cost savings, said, "This move to a paperless filing system totally changes the way we do business on a daily basis within the ADOR. Our ultimate goal is to implement this system for all business taxes administered by the ADOR. The bottom line will be significant cost savings for both the department and the business taxpayer, coupled with easier tax return and filing and payment processes."

Revenue Review is published quarterly by the Alabama Department of Revenue Media Affairs Section. Comments or suggestions should be sent to: cblackstock@revenue.state.al.us, telephone (334) 242-1390 or (334) 242-1175. Dwight Carlisle, Commissioner; Cynthia Underwood, Assistant Commissioner; Lewis A. Easterly, Department Secretary; Carla A. Snellgrove, Public Information Manager; Carolyn Blackstock, Editor; and Mickey Godwin, layout and design.

Statement of Gross Tax Collections

FY 2003 (Oct. 1, 2002 through Sept. 30, 2003)

	FY 2002-2003	FY 2001-2002	% Change
Business Privilege Tax	\$ 74,410,736.38	\$ 69,106,112.32	7.68
Gasoline	396,188,934.02	393,369,093.10	0.72
Income Tax-Corporate	240,091,331.34	304,539,069.44	(21.16)
Income Tax-Individual	2,456,330,108.43	2,399,852,475.94	2.35
Income Tax (Total)	2,696,421,439.77	2,704,391,545.38	(0.29)
Motor Fuels	119,564,453.68	117,824,673.80	1.48
Oil & Gas Privilege (8%)	66,069,066.16	38,589,911.11	71.21
Oil & Gas Production (2%)	26,626,236.45	14,644,905.06	81.81
Sales	1,576,670,337.87	1,550,266,271.99	1.70
Use Tax	187,887,141.12	197,969,004.49	(5.09)
Utility Gross Receipts	341,850,161.97	316,762,102.89	7.92
SUBTOTAL (LISTED TAXES)	5,485,688,507.42	5,402,923,620.14	1.53
SUBTOTAL (OTHER TAXES)	634,221,563.74	660,173,830.99	(3.93)
TOTAL (ALL TAXES)	\$6,119,910,071.16	\$6,063,097,451.13	0.94

Arrests and Convictions

Former Legal Secretary Convicted of State Tax Evasion

A former legal secretary was convicted July 18, 2003, after pleading guilty to a felony charge of state income tax evasion before Baldwin County Judge Charles Partin. The felony conviction carried a five-year prison sentence.

Brenda Broughton Rhames, 49, of 1301 West 7th Street, Bay Minette, Ala., pleaded guilty to one charge of state income tax evasion on income embezzled from a Mobile law firm during a four-year period, from 1997 through 2000.

The criminal charge against Rhames resulted from her failure to report the embezzled funds as additional personal income on her Alabama income tax returns. All income, even illegal income, must be reported on Alabama income tax returns.

Judge Partin sentenced Rhames to serve five years in prison, complete four years of supervised probation, and pay \$300 in fines. Rhames' state sentencing will run concurrently with a federal sentence she is now serving.

Commenting on the state tax conviction, State Revenue Commissioner Dwight Carlisle commended the Baldwin County

district attorney's office, the Baldwin County Sheriff's department, and Alabama Department of Revenue Investigations Division for their efforts in the handling of the case.

Jefferson County Resident Pleads Guilty to State Tax Charges

A Jefferson County dental assistant pleaded guilty Aug. 26, 2003, in Jefferson County (Bessemer District) Circuit Court to four counts of submitting fraudulent documents to the Alabama Department of Revenue.

During April 2000, Pamela Parker-Baker, 40, a resident of Bessemer, Ala., submitted 17 altered documents including checks, tax notices, motor vehicle registration forms, and interest receipts to the Alabama Department of Revenue in response to inquiries made by the department concerning the number and amount of itemized deductions claimed on her 1999 Alabama individual income tax return.

Jefferson County (Bessemer District) Circuit Judge E.M. Fancher sentenced Parker-Baker to one year of probation for each count, fined her \$250; ordered her to pay \$208 in court costs; and ordered her to pay all state income taxes, penalties, and interest determined to be due for the 1999 tax year.

Mobile County Business Owner Pleads Guilty to State Sales Tax Charges

A Mobile County business owner pleaded guilty Sept. 9, 2003, in Mobile County Circuit Court before Judge Robert G. Kendall to charges of willful failure to pay state sales taxes to the Alabama Department of Revenue over a five-year period.

Pamela Howard, 48, owner of Sam's Pit Stop, located at 18845 Prine Road, Citronelle, Ala., pleaded guilty Tuesday to one count of willful failure to pay state sales taxes collected from her customers during the period May 1, 1997, through April 30, 2002.

Judge Kendall ordered Howard to make full restitution by Jan. 15, 2004, of all state sales taxes, interest, and penalties owed the state totaling approximately \$45,536.00, according to court documents. Howard's conviction carried a one-year suspended jail sentence.

Commenting on the conviction, State Revenue Commissioner Dwight Carlisle commended the Mobile County District Attorney's Office in its prosecution of the case and ADOR Special Agent Robert McVay and Revenue Examiner Danny Leathers in their handling of the case.

Alabama Income Tax Refund Checkoffs (Non-Campaign) Dollars Collected

Fiscal Quarters:	2003/1	2003/2	2003/3	2003/4	2003 FYTD
Alabama Aging Fund	\$ 988.00	\$ 1,496.00	\$ 11,982.00	\$ 897.00	\$ 15,363.00
Alabama Arts Development Fund	502.00	5,216.00	7,283.00	487.00	13,488.00
Alabama Nongame Wildlife Fund	325.00	6,011.00	11,870.00	724.00	18,930.00
Child Abuse Trust Fund	1,731.00	8,903.00	23,729.00	1,773.00	36,136.00
Alabama Veterans Program	581.00	4,819.00	14,975.00	1,262.00	21,637.00
AL Indian Children's Scholarship FD	396.00	3,516.00	6,991.00	603.00	11,506.00
Penny Trust Fund	140.00	2,073.00	3,802.00	429.00	6,444.00
Foster Care Trust Fund	423.00	10,168.00	9,879.00	787.00	21,257.00
Mental Health	458.00	4,537.00	7,479.00	823.00	13,297.00
Neighbors Helping Neighbors	383.00	4,183.00	21,173.00	664.00	26,403.00
Breast & Cervical Cancers Fund	2,536.00	5,926.00	13,185.00	1,119.00	22,766.00
TOTALS:	\$8,463.00	\$56,848.00	\$132,348.00	\$9,568.00	\$207,227.00

New Registration Requirements for Alabama Interstate Motor Carriers

On Nov. 1, 2003, the ADOR will join the Alabama Department of Public Safety and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) in a federal-state commercial vehicle safety verification program called "PRISM"—Performance and Registration Information Systems Management—aimed at improving commercial vehicle safety and reducing commercial vehicle accidents.

Using database information compiled by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, ADOR personnel will cross-reference a carrier's US DOT Number and Taxpayer Identification Number with listings of carriers identified by the FMCSA as having poor safety compliance records. Those motor carriers that have been prohibited from operating in interstate commerce by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration may be denied registration by the ADOR.

"In the past, the department had no immediate way of knowing whether a particular carrier had been prohibited from operating by the FMCSA. PRISM gives us that capability. The use of registration

sanctions provides a powerful incentive for unsafe carriers to improve their safety performance," said State Revenue Commissioner Dwight Carlisle.

Also lending its support to ADOR's new IRP registration procedures is the Alabama Trucking Association.

"Members of the Alabama Trucking Association are all very concerned about highway safety and join with the Alabama Department of Revenue in requiring certain information to obtain registration," said Alabama Trucking Association Director of Safety and Member Services Gene Vonderau. "If a carrier is operating in an unsafe manner, that carrier has no business on the highways of Alabama or any other state. The PRISM program is a major step in improving carrier safety."

Effective **Nov. 1, 2003**, motor carriers or commercial vehicle owners registering a

commercial vehicle in Alabama for the **first** time under the International Registration Plan (IRP) will be required to provide the following information (in addition to other documents evidencing title of the vehicle and payment of property taxes, applicable sales and use taxes, federal heavy vehicle use taxes, etc.) to the ADOR before a commercial vehicle is registered:

- Documentation as to who is responsible for the safety fitness of the fleet(s) or vehicle(s) being registered.
- An updated motor carrier information report, and/or updated safety certification, as required.
- The U.S. Department of Transportation Number (USDOT#) of the motor carrier and of the fleet or vehicle(s), if different from the motor carrier.
- The Taxpayer Identification Num-

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IRS Interest Rate Reduced to 4%

The interest rate for the calendar quarter beginning Oct. 1, 2003, will drop to four percent (4% APR) for underpayments, according to Internal Revenue Service News Release No. 2003-110.

According to §40-1-44, *Code of Alabama 1975*, the Alabama Department of Revenue will calculate interest on underpayments and overpayments (where applicable) at this same annual rate (4%), with the exception of land sold by the state for taxes, which shall be calculated at 12% as provided for under Sec. 40-5-9.

Interest Rates By Calendar Quarter

(Established by: 26 USCA §6621; §40-1-44, *Code of Alabama 1975*)

	1ST QTR	2ND QTR	3RD QTR	4TH QTR
1982	20%	20%	20%	20%
1983	16%	16%	11%	11%
1984	11%	11%	11%	11%
1985	13%	13%	11%	11%
1986	10%	10%	9%	9%
1987	9%	9%	9%	10%
1988	11%	10%	10%	11%
1989	11%	12%	12%	11%
1990	11%	11%	11%	11%
1991	11%	10%	10%	10%
1992	9%	8%	8%	7%
1993	7%	7%	7%	7%
1994	7%	7%	8%	9%
1995	9%	10%	9%	9%
1996	9%	8%	9%	9%
1997	9%	9%	9%	9%
1998	9%	8%	8%	8%
1999	7%	8%	8%	8%
2000	8%	9%	9%	9%
2001	9%	8%	7%	7%
2002	6%	6%	6%	6%
2003	5%	5%	5%	4%

Legislative Highlights 2003

The following synopses highlight significant revenue-related legislation passed during the 2003 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature.

Local Legislation

2003-127 (H. 720) Marshall County; Additional Property Tax

Constitutional amendment to increase property taxes in Marshall County by three mills, to be used for fire protection and emergency services.

2003-132 (H. 46) Pickens County; Additional Issuance Fee on Vehicles, Tractor Trailers, Etc.

Authorizes the Pickens County Commission to levy an additional issuance fee of up to \$10 on each automotive vehicle license plate or watercraft decal. *Effective Sept. 13, 2003.*

2003-134 (H. 41) Barbour County; Additional Property Tax

Constitutional amendment to levy an additional ad valorem tax of six mills for educational purposes in Barbour County.

2003-135 (H. 44) Barbour County; Additional Tobacco Tax

Authorizes the Barbour County Commission to levy an additional tax of five-cents per pack on cigarettes and other tobacco products. The Alabama Department of Revenue may be asked to collect and administer the new tax. *Subject to voter approval.*

2003-136 (H. 42) Barbour County; Additional Sales and Use Tax

Authorizes the Barbour County Commission to levy an additional one-cent sales and use tax in Barbour County. *Subject to voter approval.*

2003-143 (H. 492) Lowndes County;

Additional Sales and Use Tax

Authorizes the Lowndes County Commission to levy a one-cent sales and use tax. This tax shall terminate upon ratification and receipt of at least an eight-mill ad valorem tax for Lowndes County. *Effective Sept. 1, 2003.*

2003-144 (H. 473) Perry County; Additional Property Tax

Authorizes Perry County to levy an additional nineteen mills in the county to be used for educational purposes, E911, and the cities of Uniontown and Marion. *Subject to voter approval.*

2003-146 (H. 317) Shelby County; Additional Property Tax

May increase the property tax levy in School District No. 2 in Shelby County from the current 11 mills to 20 mills. *Subject to voter approval.*

2003-149 (H. 424) Escambia County; Additional Property Tax

May increase the property tax levied in Escambia County from the current three mills to a maximum of 13 mills. *Subject to voter approval.*

2003-166 (H. 449) Washington County; Additional MV Issuance Fee

Adds an additional issuance fee of \$20 for each license plate or decal in Washington County. *Effective July 1, 2003.*

2003-168 (H. 596) Choctaw County; Clarifies Tax on Little Cigars

Amends Act 2001-913, 2001 Third Special Session, to clarify that the tobacco products tax of ten cents shall apply to little cigars. *Effective June 13, 2003.*

2003-172 (H. 414) City of Birmingham; Additional Property Tax

Authorizes the City of Birmingham to increase ad valorem taxes by ten mills for the city school system. *Subject to voter*

approval.

2003-189 (S. 499) Marshall County; Additional Property Tax

Requires the Marshall County Commission to levy an additional ad valorem tax equal to three mills outside the city limits of Albertville, Arab, Boaz, and Guntersville; to be used for fire protection and emergency services. *Subject to voter approval.*

2003-213 (H. 640) Randolph County; Additional Tobacco Tax

Authorizes the Randolph County Commission to levy and collect a tax of \$0.25 per pack on cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and paper, and a tax of \$0.12 per cigar. This Act repeals Act No. 89-488 and Act No. 2000-144. *Effective Aug. 1, 2003.*

2003-220 (H. 639) Clay County; Additional Tobacco Tax

Authorizes the Clay County Commission to levy and collect a tax of \$0.25 per pack on cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and paper, and a tax of \$0.12 per cigar. This Act repeals Act No. 89-501 and Act No. 2000-145. *Effective Aug. 1, 2003.*

2003-237 (H. 717) Chilton County; One-Cent Sales and Use Tax

Authorizes the County Commission to levy a one-cent sales and use tax in the county to be used for roads, schools, and capital improvements. *Subject to voter approval.*

2003-248 (H. 638) Chambers County; Additional Tobacco Tax

Authorizes the Chambers County Commission to levy and collect a tax of \$0.25 per pack on cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and paper, and a tax of \$0.12 per cigar. This Act repeals Act No. 89-381, Act No. 89-507, and Act No. 2000-376. *Effective Aug. 1, 2003.*

2003-267 (H. 583) City of Prattville; Increase Sales And Use Tax

Increases the general sales and use tax levied by Prattville in areas of the city which are located in Elmore County, thus making the levy uniform throughout the municipality. Only the general sales/use tax rate is increased. *Effective June 18, 2003.*

2003-268 (H. 691) Randolph County; Lodgings Tax

Authorizes the Randolph County Commission to levy and collect a four percent lodgings tax in the county. *Effective Sept. 1, 2003.*

2003-269 (H. 717) Chilton County; Lodgings Tax

Authorizes the Chilton County Commission to levy and collect a three percent lodgings tax in the county. *Effective Sept. 1, 2003.*

2003-281 (H. 745) Clarke County; Additional Tobacco Tax

Authorizes the Clarke County Commission to levy and collect a tax of \$0.05 per pack on cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and paper, and a tax of \$0.02 per cigar. *Effective Aug. 1, 2003.*

2003-286 (H. 756) Shelby County; Additional Tobacco Tax

Authorizes the Shelby County Commission to levy and collect a tax of \$0.01 per pack on cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and paper, and each cigar. *Effective Aug. 1, 2003.*

2003-287 (H. 757) Chambers County; Additional Property Tax

Authorizes the Chambers County Commission to levy and collect an ad valorem tax equal to six mills for a period of twenty years. *Subject to voter approval.*

2003-323 (H. 774) Cleburne County; Additional Tobacco Tax

Authorizes the Cleburne County Commission to levy and collect a tax of \$0.15 per pack on cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and paper, and a tax of \$0.02 per

cigar. This Act repeals Act No. 90-450. *Effective Aug. 1, 2003.*

2003-317 (SB 520) Russell County; Additional Motor Vehicle Registration Issuance Fee

Extends authorization of the county commission to levy an additional issuance fee on motor vehicle registrations for an additional two years. Terminates authorization June 30, 2005.

2003-329 (H. 779) Marengo County; Additional Tobacco Tax

Authorizes the Marengo County Commission to levy and collect a tax of \$0.05 per pack on cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and paper, and a tax of \$0.02 per cigar. *Effective Aug. 1, 2003.*

2003-361 (H. 613) Calhoun County; Additional Sales and Use Tax

Amends Act 2000-378 to clarify the authority of the county commission to establish different rates with respect to automotive vehicles, truck trailers, semi-trailers, house trailers, and mobile home set-up materials and supplies. Repeals the exemption for certain trucks used for agricultural purposes so as to conform with the state sales and use tax while establishing a zero tax rate for both new and used agricultural machinery and equipment. *Retroactive to March 1, 2003.*

2003-374 (SB 529) Tallapoosa County; Additional Property Tax

Authorizes the county commission to levy an additional ad valorem tax of seven mills and provide for a referendum. *Effective Sept. 1, 2003.*

2003-377 (H. 747) Tallapoosa County; Additional Property Tax

Authorizes the Tallapoosa County Commission to levy an additional ad valorem tax of seven mills and provide for a referendum. *Effective Sept. 1, 2003.*

General Legislation**2003-332 (H. 186) Alabama Scrap Tire Environmental Quality Act**

Provides for a one-dollar per tire fee to be collected at the point of sale for any new, used, or retread tire. *Effective Sept. 1, 2003.*

2003-341 (H. 654) Income Tax Refund Check-Off; Alabama 4-H Club Foundation, Incorporated

Includes a place on the 2003 Alabama Individual Income tax return for the taxpayer to designate a portion of his/her refund for the Alabama 4-H Club Foundation, Incorporated. *Effective Sept. 1, 2003.*

2003-345 (H. 187) Alabama Uniform Certificate Of Title and Antitheft Definitions, Enforcement, Etc.

Amends existing statutes and adds new provisions to: provide for expanded definitions for "New manufactured home," "Pickup Truck," "Scrap Manufactured Home," and "Utility Trailer;" prohibit the titling of any vehicle prior to the 1975 model year and vehicles that do not meet federal/state safety, emissions, and antitheft standards; and, to administer and enforce bond requirements, liens, security interests, and other licensing measures for designated agents. *Effective Jan. 1, 2004.*

2003-375 (SB 225) Nonresident Capital Credit Change

Allows nonresident members of an investing company investing within the state to elect to use their portion of the capital credit as a nonrefundable Alabama estimated income tax payment in lieu of using their portion as a credit against their Alabama income tax liability. *Effective for tax year 2003.*

2003-390 (H. 650) Foreign Business Entity Nexus

Establishes the conditions under which foreign business entities with in-state affiliates have nexus for use tax purposes in Alabama. *Effective Aug. 1, 2003, for both state and local use taxes.*

2003-394 (H. 375) Peace Officers and Firemen Death Benefit Clarification

Amends section 36-30-1, Code of Ala-

bama 1975, as amended by Act 2002-519, 2002 Regular Session, relating to death benefits for peace officers and firemen, to clarify that certain death or disability compensation is in the nature of workers' compensation to comply with a specific exclusion in the Internal Revenue Code at 26 USC §104. *Effective Sept. 1, 2003.*

2003-402 (H. 555) Amends Abandoned Motor Vehicle Statute, Providing Applicability To Trailers

Amends sections 12-19-76, 32-13-1, 32-13-3, 32-13-4, and 32-13-6, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to abandoned motor vehicles, to provide applicability to trailers and to allow the Department of Revenue to provide the name and address of the owners and lien holders when the vehicle has been towed; and to provide for the reporting of sale to the register or circuit clerk when a vehicle has been sold and for the fee.

Establishes a fee of \$35 for filing a report of the sale of an abandoned motor vehicle. *Effective Sept. 1, 2003.*

Administrative Rules

Effective Sept. 22, 2003

Adopted:

810-1-6-.12 Taxes Required to Be Filed Electronically

Effective Dec. 1, 2003:

Amended:

810-14-1-.29 General Disclosure and Exchange of Information Guidelines

Effective Dec. 9, 2003:

Adopted:

810-8-1-.12 Alabama Scrap Tire Environmental Fee Application and Filing Procedure

810-5-1-.400 Performance and Registration Information Systems Management (PRISM) Program Adopted in Alabama

Amended:

810-603-.24.01 Foreign Diplomatic and Consular Officials

ADOR Resumes Mandatory Liability Verification

The Alabama Department of Revenue reinstated its mandatory liability insurance verification program in September of this year.

On a monthly basis, some 7,000 survey/questionnaires are mailed out to vehicle owners, identifying the particular vehicle selected for insurance verification and requesting the following information on the survey form:

- name of the insurance company (NOT AGENT'S NAME) which has insured that particular vehicle
- NAIC number printed on the insurance card which identifies the insurance company
- address and telephone number of the insurance company
- vehicle's insurance policy number
- effective date and expiration date of the vehicle policy.

Completed surveys are to be mailed to the address shown on the provided, pre-addressed, postage-paid envelope within 30 calendar days from the date shown on the survey form. Individuals may also respond by fax or by Internet. Failure to respond to the survey can result in suspension of the motor vehicle's registration.

"Once the department receives the returned surveys, personnel will begin the verification process," said State Revenue Commissioner Dwight Carlisle. "If an owner is found not to have insurance, the owner will be notified and the vehicle's tag registration will be suspended. To reinstate the registration, the owner must provide proof of insurance to the Revenue Department at the time of reinstatement and pay a \$100 registration reinstatement fee for first-time suspensions."

"The department reminds owners that they are only required to verify insurance coverage for the vehicle identified on the survey form," added Carlisle.

"After one year, the department will again survey vehicle owners who were

found without insurance. Subsequent offenses carry a mandatory four-month tag suspension, a \$200 reinstatement fee, proof of insurance at the time of reinstatement, and require a vehicle owner to maintain liability insurance for three years," said Carlisle.

Certain vehicle categories are specifically exempted from Alabama's mandatory liability insurance law and will not be subject to insurance verification. Exempt vehicles include: semitrailers, travel trailers, utility trailers, government-owned vehicles, for-hire trucking companies regulated by the Public Service Commission, and off-road vehicles such as road-graders, etc.

For more information concerning Alabama's Mandatory Liability Insurance Law and the Department of Revenue's related responsibilities, contact the department's Mandatory Liability Insurance Section of the Motor Vehicle Division at (334) 353-2000, or visit the department's Web site at www.ador.state.al.us.

New Registration Requirements

(Continued from Page 4)

ber (TIN) of the motor carrier and of the owner(s) of the fleet or vehicle(s) being registered.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2004, these requirements will apply to all motor carriers or vehicle owner(s) who will be renewing the registrations of commercial vehicles in Alabama under the International Registration Plan (IRP).

Participation in the PRISM program will allow the Alabama Department of Revenue to deny, suspend, or revoke IRP registrations when motor carriers have been prohibited from operating by a federal and/or state agency responsible for motor carrier safety. Currently, 26 states, including Alabama, participate in the PRISM program.

Required Monthly Returns Tax Activity

- 10th** • Medicaid-related tax return and payment due for nursing facilities.
• Tobacco use tax return and payment due.
- 15th** • Gasoline information return due from carriers, transporters, and warehouses.
• Lubricating oils information return due from carriers, transporters, and warehouses.
• Motor carrier mileage tax return and payment due.
• Oil and gas production tax and privilege tax return and payment due two months following month of production.
• Withholding return and payment due from those employers required to remit on a monthly basis.
- 20th** • Aviation fuel tax return and payment due.
• Coal severance tax return and payment due.
• Coal transporters' and purchasers' returns due.
• Contractors' gross receipts tax return and payment due.
• Gasoline tax return and payment due.
• Iron ore severance tax return and payment due.
• Local solid minerals tax returns and payments due.
• Lodgings tax return and payment due.
• Lubricating oils tax return and payment due.
• Medicaid tax return and payment due from pharmaceutical service providers.
• Mobile telecommunications tax return and payment due.
• Motor fuel tax return and payment due.
• Pari-mutuel pool tax return and payment due.
• Rental or leasing tax return and payment due.
• Sales tax (state and local) return and payment due.
• Scrap Tire Environmental Fee due.
• Tobacco tax (state and county) return and payment due.
• Underground and aboveground storage tank trust fund charge due.
• Use tax return and payment due.
• Utility gross receipts tax return and payment due.
- 30th** • Hazardous waste fee return and payment due.
- Last day of month** • State horse wagering fee return and payment due.

Quarterly/Annual Tax Activity

(November and December 2003,
January and February 2004)

- Nov.**
- 30** • Last day to register and pay fee for manufactured homes without penalty.
- Dec.**
- 15** • Fourth installment of estimated corporate income tax due (for calendar-year taxpayers).
- 31** • Ad valorem tax on real and personal property delinquent after this date.
• Expiration of the previous calendar year's motor fuel identification markers.
- Jan.**
- 1** • Quarterly Dry Cleaning Trust Fund Fee return and payment due.
• Utility license (2.2%) second quarterly payment due.
- 15** • Fourth installment of estimated personal income tax due.
- 20** • Quarterly sales tax return and payment due.
• Annual sales tax return and payment due.
• Quarterly use tax return and payment due.
• Annual use tax return and payment due.
• Quarterly rental or leasing tax return and payment due.
• Annual rental or leasing tax return and payment due.
- 30** • Forest products' severance tax return and payment due.
- 31** • Quarterly withholding return and payment due from employer.
• Quarterly IFTA tax return and payment due.
- Feb.**
- 28** • Annual withholding return due.