



Wednesday, July 25, 2018

DEALER ALERT

ENTERING THE UNITED STATES USING DEALER PLATES

Several members have notified the UCDA that they have been turned away at U.S. border crossings when driving vehicles with dealer plates.

The UCDA has contacted U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and they have advised that additional scrutiny is required in some cases to address concerns that vehicles are being brought into the U.S. to be sold, without being properly imported. CBP advised that they will work with us to assist legitimate users of dealer plates arriving at the U.S. Border.

Dealers should always carry proof of vehicle and plate registration and insurance when driving with a dealer plate and appropriate identification for drivers and passengers to enter the U.S. (e.g. Passport, enhanced Driver's Licence, Nexus card).

In addition, U.S. Customs has provided the UCDA with examples of the type of acceptable documentation that can be presented when driving a vehicle, that is not being sold in the U.S., across the border with a dealer plate.

Dealers entering the U.S. to buy or to pick up vehicles already purchased should carry one of more of the following:

- Auction Access Card
- Purchase orders
- Auction announcements
- Storage and towing receipts
- Pre-bid printouts

Dealers entering for private, non-commercial visits should carry documentation relating to the U.S. destination, such as:

- Airline tickets
- Tickets for attractions, sporting events or concerts
- Hotel reservations/vacation itinerary

- U.S. addresses of destination or venue

If the driver of the vehicle is not the dealership owner, provide the driver with a letter signed by the dealership confirming they are authorized to drive dealer vehicles with the dealer plate.

These documents are not exhaustive and do not guarantee entry to the United States if U.S. Customs officers have other concerns. However, having appropriate documentation such as listed above should reduce problems crossing the border.

Please call Warren Barnard or Jim Hamilton at the UCDA Legal Department (416) 231-2600 or 1 (800) 268-2598 if you have problems, or would like to learn more about this issue.

