OIVS Annual Report January 4, 2025

State of Alabama Department of Revenue Online Insurance Verification System 2024 Annual Report

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INTRODUCTION

This report was prepared in accordance with Section 32-7B-3, <u>Code of Alabama 1975</u>, which provides that the insurance advisory council will issue a written report to the Alabama Department of Revenue (DOR), Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) and Department of Insurance (DOI) twelve (12) months after the Online Insurance Verification System (OIVS) is implemented and annually thereafter. The purpose of this report is to outline the system's effectiveness in identifying uninsured motorists.

Background

The DOR is responsible for administering the Mandatory Liability Insurance (MLI) law (Act 2000-554). The law was established to effectively administer and enforce minimum motor vehicle liability insurance requirements in Alabama. Alabama registrants are required to maintain motor vehicle liability insurance coverage as a prerequisite to registering vehicles.

Legislative Act 2011-688 required the DOR to create an OIVS to be used to verify a registrant's compliance with the MLI law (§32-7A-1 et seq.) of Alabama. The OIVS was fully implemented and in production on January 1, 2013.

As detailed in the <u>IICMVA Model User Guide for Implementing Online Insurance</u> <u>Verification (version 4.0)</u>, the purpose of the OIVS is to assist in the administration and enforcement of motor vehicle liability insurance requirements. It allows requesting parties to go directly to the source of insurance information – the insurance companies. It allows a real time response to be provided to an insurance inquiry that contains standardized request information. It is utilized to verify a minimum liability insurance policy is in effect on a vehicle prior to the issuance of a motor vehicle registration by a license plate issuing official, by law enforcement officers during traffic stops or accidents, and by the DOR to ensure insurance policies are being maintained on vehicles registered in Alabama.

Advisory Council

The legislative act created an insurance advisory council for the purpose of facilitating the implementation of an OIVS in Alabama using the Insurance Industry Committee on Motor Vehicle Administration (IICMVA) specifications and standards. The thirteen (13) member council includes the following persons:

- Two (2) representatives of the DOR
- One (1) representative of the ALEA
- One (1) representative of the DOI
- Four (4) insurance company representatives appointed by the Commissioner of Insurance

- One (1) representative of the NAMIC
- One (1) representative of the APCIA
- One (1) representative of the AIIA
- One (1) representative of the APJA
- One (1) representative of the AATA

The council is chaired by the DOR Commissioner or his/her designee. The council held its first meeting July 20, 2011, to begin development and implementation of the OIVS. The DOR is responsible for keeping the advisory council informed on the operational status of the OIVS. DOR maintains information relating to the implementation of OIVS on the motor vehicle division webpage labeled "Insurance Advisory Council" at https://revenue.alabama.gov/motor-vehicle/insurance-advisory-council/. Initially, the council met every month in person. As the OIVS progressed, the council began meeting bi-monthly via teleconference call. In 2016, the council began meeting quarterly via conference call. During 2020, the council members elected to begin having council meetings on an "as needed" basis.

See Appendix D for a list of MLI Advisory Council Members.

MLI System Conversion

A new MVD computer system which houses all MVD applications (titles, registration, MLI, etc.) went live on December 13, 2023. The system launch did not change any of the background OVIS processes related to MLI. For MLI, it only changed the new website that registrants and insurers interacted with: mydmv.revenue.alabama.gov During 2024, MVD worked with the new vendor to ensure that all MLI cases housed in the previous system properly transferred over to the new system. The process included making sure that case statuses (open, suspended, etc.) were consistent during the change and making sure that any MLI suspensions reflected the proper monetary amount (\$200 for first offense; \$400 for second and subsequent offenses).

The MVD also worked with licensing officials to ensure that they were properly trained on the new system. Training was provided to ensure that officials knew how to navigate the new system and knew how to process the MLI transactions.

MLI System: Alabama Partners

The new MLI site offers a new feature that allows insurers to sign up as "Alabama Partners" and create their own online account. Once the account is created and approved, insurers can log into their account and respond to MLI Verification (by choosing to "confirm" or "unconfirm" coverage) on behalf of their customers. Insurers also have the capability to add administrators to their accounts and manage users as they see fit. Expanding the capability for direct response to all insurers will allow insurers to quickly resolve MLI inquires, thus reducing the burden on their customers.

During 2024, the MVD worked to encourage more insurers to sign up and create an account. By the end of 2024, over sixty (60) insurance companies had signed up to become Alabama partners, which allows those companies to confirm coverage on their customer's MLI cases.

OVIS Certificate Update

The OIVS security certificate expired on December 14, 2024. In preparation for this expiration, the Center for Advanced Public Safety (CAPS) first installed the certificate into OIVS and then hosted it on MVD's website. Next Caps, tested the new certificate against all production insurers who utilize the certificate to ensure that the insurance verification request did not fail with the insurer when the new certificate was in place. During this testing, some issues were identified where some insurers testing failed with the new certificate in place. The MVD and CAPS then worked with those insurers to ensure that their service would work with the new certificate. All issues were resolved as of December 1, 2024.

Insurer Information Form

Prior to utilizing the OIVS, each insurer is required to submit an Insurer Information Form (see Appendix A or pg. 23 of the OIVS User Guide: OIVS User Guide) for each insurer's NAIC number. Insurers should also use the form to submit any changes.

OIVS Requests, Responses, and MLI Statistics

Appendix B reflects OIVS and MLI statistics from the 2024 calendar year. As detailed in the report, over 36M insurance verification requests were submitted to insurers through OIVS. Over 32 M of these requests were "first requests" received from licensing officials, and the DOR reverification process. Over 2M of the remaining requests were "second requests" by DOR which occurred fourteen (14) days after the "first request" in an attempt to verify insurance before an MLI notice was mailed to the registrant. Over 758,000 were "other requests" by DOR and licensing officials attempting to confirm provided insurance information.

In 2024, 1,011,429 MLI Notification Letters and Notices of Suspension were sent to registrants. During 2024, 192,465 registrant responses to MLI Notification Letters were received. 108,958 (57%) of the registrant responses were received electronically via the registrant response system, and the remaining 83,507 (43%) registrant responses were received by local licensing offices.

In 2024,874,620 MLI record responses/updates were processed. Of that total, 37,564 (5%) were registration reinstatements (which are payments of either a \$200 fee (for the first violation) or a \$400 fee (for second or subsequent violations) for when a registrant's vehicle was not insured on the insurance verification date). 543,052 (62%) of MLI

records were closed (CL). 48,912 (6%) registration revocations (VR) were processed because the vehicle was sold, inoperable, or stored on the insurance verification date. The remaining 245,092 (28%) resulted in registration suspensions (S1 or S2) because the registrant failed to respond to the MLI notice or failed to provide evidence of insurance on the insurance verification date.

Reinstatement Fees

Over \$8M in reinstatement fees were collected for the 2024 calendar year. In accordance with Section 32-7A-12 (g), Code of Ala.1975, licensing officials retain 15% of the reinstatement fee. Fifty (50) percent of this fee is distributed to county general fund and fifty (50) percent is distributed to a special registration/titling technology fund for the licensing official's office. Act 2019-446 specified that the special fund shall be used for taxpayer education of the requirements of Title 32, Chapter 7A, the improvement of the equipment and operations in the licensing official office and shall be in addition to the amount budgeted for the office of the official. Fifteen (15) percent of the reinstatement fees received by the department are distributed to the peace officers' annuity fund. The remaining funds are used by DOR to pay for the operation of the MLI program and any remaining funds are distributed to the General Fund.

Department Outreach

DOR representatives attended the AATA Mid-Winter Conference (February 2024), the AATA Summer Conference (June 2024), the IICMVA Conference (March 2024 and October 2024), and the Alabama Licensing Officials (AATA) Conference (December 2024) to provide updates regarding the MLI program.

ACRONYMS

AATA – Alabama Association of Tax Administrators

AllA – Alabama Independent Insurance Agents

ALEA – Alabama Law Enforcement Agency

ANSI - American National Standards Institute

APCIA-American Property Casualty Insurance Association

APJA – Alabama Probate Judges Association

DOR - Department of Revenue

DOI - Department of Insurance

IICMVA – Insurance Industry Committee on Motor Vehicle Administration

MLI – Mandatory Liability Insurance

NAIC – National Association of Insurance Commissioners

NAMIC - National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies

OIVS – Online Insurance Verification System

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PROGRAM CONTACTS

Mandatory Liability Insurance

Alabama Department of Revenue Motor Vehicle Division Mandatory Liability Insurance Unit P O Box 327650 2545 Taylor Road Montgomery, AL 36117

Telephone: (334) 242-9000

Email: mvd@revenue.alabama.gov Website: www.besuretoinsureal.com

Financial/Safety Responsibility

Alabama Law Enforcement Agency **Driver License Division** Safety Responsibility Section P.O. Box 1471 Montgomery, AL 36102

Telephone: (334) 242-4222 Website: www.alea.alabama.gov

APPENDIX A



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION

MV-MLI-C 02/21

Mandatory Liability Insurance Insurer Information Form

Please complete for each NAIC code and submit via document upload to: https://revenue.alabama.gov/contact/. Once on the page, click "Submit a Request".

Note if you are a new user, an account will need to be created to submit the document.

Insurer Name		NAIC Code_		
Iailing Address				
City		State	Zip	
Contact Type	Contact Name	Email Address	Phone Number	
Business Practices (BP)				
Alternate BP				
nformation Technology (IT)				
Alternate IT				
Please place a checl	k by each report method that	can be used to provide insurance information.	1	
Web Service	es 2005 ANSI Schen	na 2008 ANSI Schema		
Alternative	- only allowed for companie	es that insure 500 or less vehicles in Alabama		

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APPENDIX B

State of Alabama OIVS and MLI Statistics 2024 Calendar Year

OIVS Summary	Total
First Request OIVS Totals	32,526,944
Second Request OIVS Totals	2,796,571
Other OIVS Request Totals	758,045
Total OIVS Requests	36,081,560
Correspondence Sent	
Mailed Verification Notices	654,250
Mailed Notices of Suspension	357,179
Total Correspondence Sent	1,011,429
Responses Received	
Registrant Response System	108,958
ADOR/Licensing Officials	83,507
Total Responses	192,465
MLI Summary	
R1 (\$200 fee paid)- 1st Violation	32,142
R2 (\$400 fee paid)- 2nd Violation	5,422
CL-Closed Record	543,052
VR-Revoked Registration	48,912
1st Suspension (S1)	228,694
2nd Suspension (S2)	16,398
Total Responses	874,620

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APPENDIX C

MLI Reinstatement Fees		
	FY 24	\$8,784,574.79
	FY 23	\$11,715,164.99
	FY 22	\$10,718,074.09
	FY 21	\$13,078,084.90
	FY 20	\$8,516,822.47
	FY 19	\$5,694,946.99
	FY 18	\$8,143,822.14

APPENDIX D

MLI Advisory Council Members Established by Section 32-7B-2, Code of Alabama 1975

Alabama Department of Revenue (2)

Jay Starling, Motor Vehicle Division, Chair (334) 242-9078

jay.starling@revenue.alabama.gov

Troy Thigpen, Motor Vehicle Division (334) 242-9671

termaine.thiqpen@revenue.alabama.gov

Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (1)

Captain Jonathan Archer (334) 243-1377 Jon.Archer@alea.gov

Alabama Department of Insurance (1)

Ken Williamson (334) 240-7583

ken.williamson@insurance.alabama.gov

Assoc. of Alabama Tax Administrators (1)

Greg Tucker, License Commissioner Limestone County (256) 233-6430 gtucker@limestonecounty.net

Alabama Probate Judges Association (1)

Sheila Moore, Probate Judge Winston County (205) 489-5219 pjwinston@hotmail.com

Insurance Reps. (4) - selected by DOI Commissioner

Dustin Wilson, ALFA (334) 613-4975 dwilson2@alfains.com

Ken Needham, Allstate (205) 981-5991 Ken.needham@allstate.com

John Morales, USAA (210) 296-7753 John.morales@usaa.com Kim Decker, Farmers Insurance (405) 823-2638 kim.decker@farmersinsurance.com

National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC) (1)

Todd Feltman State Farm Insurance (309) 763-5792 Todd.feltmanc0hu@statefarm.com

American Property Casualty Insurance Association (APCIA) (1)

Michael Richmond-Crum Manager, Personal Lines & Counsel (202) 813-2304 Michael.richmond-crum@apci.org

Alabama Independent Insurance Agents (AIIA) (1)

Ken McFeeters PAC Insurance (205) 426-9885 Ken35216@yahoo.com

Total members: 13