

# Florida

## Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

### *Division of Motorist Services*

PROCEDURE	SUBJECT:
TL-63	LOW-SPEED VEHICLES AND MINI-TRUCKS
<p><b>DESCRIPTION AND USE:</b>          THIS PROCEDURE PROVIDES INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS TO <u>ASSIST</u> TAX COLLECTOR EMPLOYEES, LICENSE PLATE AGENCY EMPLOYEES, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES IN IMPLEMENTING REQUIREMENTS TO PROCESS CERTIFICATE OF TITLE APPLICATIONS INVOLVING LOW-SPEED VEHICLES, GOLF CARTS CONVERTED TO LOW-SPEED VEHICLES, <u>LOW-SPEED VEHICLES CONVERTED TO GOLF CARTS</u>, OR MINI-TRUCKS.</p>	
<p><b>I. PROVISIONS OF LAW:</b></p> <p>Section 316.2122, Florida Statutes, provides that the operation of a low-speed vehicle, as defined in section <u>320.01</u>, on any road as defined in section 334.03(15) or (33), is authorized with the following restrictions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A low-speed vehicle or mini-truck may be operated only on streets where the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less. This does not prohibit a low-speed vehicle or mini-truck from crossing a road or street at an intersection where the road or street has a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour.</li> <li>b. A low-speed vehicle or mini-truck must be equipped with headlamps, stop lamps, turn signal lamps, tail lamps, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, windshield, seat belts, and vehicle identification number.</li> <li>c. A low-speed vehicle or mini-truck must be registered and insured in accordance with section 320.02, Florida Statutes and titled pursuant to chapter 319, Florida Statutes.</li> <li>d. Any person operating a low-speed vehicle must have in his or her possession a valid driver license.</li> <li>e. A county or municipality may prohibit the operation of low-speed vehicles or mini-trucks on any road under its jurisdiction if the governing body of the county or municipality determines that such prohibition is necessary in the interest of safety.</li> <li>f. The Department of Transportation may prohibit the operation of low-speed vehicles or mini-trucks on any road under its jurisdiction if it determines that such prohibition is necessary in the interest of safety.</li> </ol>	
<p><i>Revision(s) to this procedure: Added new statute to page 2 and new item C to section III explaining the process for converting a low-speed vehicle to a golf cart.</i></p>	
EFFECTIVE DATE	REVISION DATE
07/01/13	06/14/13

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Sections 316.225, 316.271, 316.2952 and 316.410, Florida Statutes, provide additional equipment requirements (windshield cleaning devices, illuminated rear license plate brackets, horns, and slow moving vehicle emblems) for low speed vehicles or mini trucks.

**Section 319.14(10)(a),(b), and (c), F.S., provides for the conversion of low-speed vehicles to golf carts.**

Section 320.01, Florida Statutes, defines “Low-speed vehicle” as any four-wheeled vehicle whose top speed is greater than 20 miles per hour but not greater than 25 miles per hour, including, but not limited to, neighborhood electric vehicles. Low-speed vehicles must comply with the safety standards in 49 C.F.R. s. 571.500 and s. 316.2122, Florida Statutes.

Section 320.01, Florida Statutes, defines “Mini-Truck” as any four-wheeled, reduced-dimension truck that does not have a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration truck classification, with a top speed of 55 miles per hour.

**II. GENERAL INFORMATION:**

The U. S. Department of Transportation National Highway Safety Administration (NHTSA) has included in the definition of “motor vehicle” a new category called “low-speed vehicles (LSV),” which includes the neighborhood electric vehicle. Section 320.01(42), Florida Statutes, allows for a low speed vehicle to either be electric or have a gasoline engine. The top speed at which LSV’s are allowed to travel is 25 miles per hour. They may not be operated on public roads where the minimum speed for that road exceeds 35 miles per hour. The Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) for the LSV must be less than 3,000 pounds as specified in NHTSA’s rule (49 CFR Part 571).

The top speed at which mini-trucks are capable of traveling is 55 miles per hour. Although they are equipped to travel at speeds up to 55 miles per hour, they may NOT be operated on public roads where the maximum speed for that road exceeds 35 miles per hour.

New “low-speed” vehicles and mini-trucks are issued a Manufacturer’s Certificate of Origin (MCO) by the manufacturer with a standard 17-digit vehicle identification number (VIN) and a statement that the vehicle conforms to Federal Regulations under Title 49 CFR Part 571.500. These vehicles are titled and registered in the same manner as any motor vehicle. The body type of the LSV can be two passenger (2P), four passenger (4P), six passenger (6P), or nine (9P) passenger. Choosing one of these body types creates the “low-speed vehicle” brand in FRVIS. The body type of the mini-trucks must be “MT.”

If the low speed vehicle is electric, then the use type for electric vehicle must be selected. The title will print with the primary brand of “Low-speed Veh” and the word “electric” will print in the “model” space on the title. Mini-trucks are considered low-speed vehicles (even though they are not branded); however, they are generally not electric and should not be marked as such. Any low-speed vehicle will be registered as an auto (AU) according to the weight. If the vehicle is “for-hire,” the appropriate class code will be assigned according to the vehicle’s weight.

**NOTE:** Any LSV, which was titled prior to FRVIS, was not branded as a “Low-speed Veh,” therefore; these vehicles should be branded when the title is submitted for transfer to a new owner.

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<p>III. DOCUMENTATION AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:</p> <p>A. For documentation required, refer to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Procedure TL-10 when the application is for an original certificate of title.</li><li>2. Procedure TL-11 when the application is for a transfer of a certificate of title.</li><li>3. Procedure TL-05 when the application is for a duplicate certificate of title.</li><li>4. Procedure TL-12 when the application is for a duplicate with transfer certificate of title.</li></ol> <p>B. GOLF CARTS CONVERTED TO LOW-SPEED VEHICLES</p> <p>Golf carts are NOT allowed to be titled or registered. However, NHTSA allows a golf cart to be converted to a “low-speed vehicle.” The converted low-speed vehicle must be in its completed state before applying for a certificate of title. The application and all documentation (see list below) must be submitted to a Division of Motorist Services (DMS) Regional office servicing the area in which the applicant resides. The applicant can locate an address and telephone number for the DMS Regional Office assigned to their county by choosing the appropriate county at the following link: <a href="http://www.flhsmv.gov/offices/">http://www.flhsmv.gov/offices/</a></p> <p>The compliance examiner will review the paperwork and inspect the vehicle. When the documentation has been reviewed and found to be in order, an FLA number will be assigned to the converted low-speed vehicle. The “year” for the vehicle will be the year it is converted, the make will be “ASPT”, and the body type will be 2P, 4P, etc.</p> <p>The following are the required documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The original MCO completed for transfer to the applicant or a bill of sale to the applicant for the golf cart.</li><li>2. <a href="#">Form HSMV 82040</a>, Application for Certificate of Title with/without Registration, accurately completed, showing the new “FLA” number.</li><li>3. <a href="#">Form HSMV 84490</a>, Statement of Builder (Rev. 2/01 or later), accurately completed by the applicant and the DMS Compliance Examiner/Inspector. The customer must specify on the form that the low-speed vehicle conforms to Federal Regulations under Title 49 CFR Part 571.500 and s. 316, Florida Statutes.</li><li>4. <a href="#">Form HSMV 86064</a>, “Affidavit For Golf Cart Modified To A Low Speed Vehicle”, accurately completed by the applicant.</li><li>5. The original bills of sale or receipts with name, address, and signature of the seller for all parts used to convert the golf cart to a low-speed vehicle. A signature is not required on a business receipt. The receipts/bills of sale must be in the name of the applicant/builder.</li><li>6. Payment of Florida sales tax or specify the sales tax exemption information on an accurately completed <a href="#">form HSMV 82040</a>, Application for Certificate of Title with/without Registration, or form HSMV 82041, Application for Vehicle/Vessel Certificate of Title and/or Registration. Sales tax must be collected according to the purchase price of the golf cart and the purchase price of all parts where sales tax was not already collected.</li></ol>	
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7. A certified weight slip for the completed vehicle.
8. All title fees, including the inspection fee. Refer to the Schedule of Motor Vehicle, Mobile Home and Off-Highway Title and Lien Fees chart for applicable fees.
9. When the title transaction is processed, the processing agency must enter the Region number of the Region inspecting the vehicle and the audit number of the FLA decal affixed to the LSV in the "Comment Desc." field.

**C. LOW-SPEED VEHICLES CONVERTED TO GOLF CARTS**

**A vehicle titled or branded and registered as a low-speed vehicle may be converted to a golf cart following the steps below:**

1. **The owner of the converted vehicle must contact a DMS regional office, surrender the current certificate of title and the registration license plate, and pay the \$40 inspection fee.**
2. **The owner of the converted vehicle must provide an affidavit ([form HSMV 86066](#)) attesting that the vehicle has been modified to comply with the speed restrictions provided in s. 320.01(22) and acknowledging that the vehicle must be operated in accordance with s. 316.212, s. 316.2125, s. 316.2126, or s. 316.21265.**
3.
  - (a) **The regional office will provide a cancel reason type of 'Converted to Golf Cart' in FRVIS, and cancel the certificate of title and registration of the vehicle.**
  - (b) **The department will issue the owner a pre-printed decal reflecting the conversion of the vehicle to a golf cart, which is clearly legible and reads: "CONVERTED VEHICLE. Max speed 20 mph." The decal must be displayed on the rear of the vehicle so it is plainly visible.**

**IV. MISCELLANEOUS:**

- A. Golf carts are not allowed to be titled or registered. However, low-speed vehicles and mini-trucks MUST be titled and registered.
- B. Any retailer who sells low-speed vehicles or mini-trucks must have a dealer's license.
- C. Low-speed vehicles are exempt from the odometer disclosure laws.
- D. Vehicles which were manufactured as off road vehicles (i.e., mules, ATVs, etc.) are NOT allowed to be converted to low speed vehicles.
- E. The GVWR of a low-speed vehicle includes the weight of the vehicle, plus the rated cargo load, plus 150 lbs. times the number of seated positions (i.e., those seating positions equipped with seat belts).
- F. For tri-vehicles refer to TL-67.