



## VOLUME 5, ISSUE 3

# CITIZEN CORNER

A QUARTERLY CIRCULAR BY POLICE CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY

### WHAT MOTORISTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT 'THE MONTH OF GRACE'

Did you know that there is such a thing as the 'Month of Grace?' If not, here is what you need to know...

#### What is the Month of Grace?

According to the **2018 Road Traffic Act**, the Month of Grace means the period of one (1) calendar month immediately after the expiration of the Motor Vehicle License or Motor Vehicle Registration Certificate.

This means that the **Road Traffic Act** sees the expired registration document and decal (license disc) as still being in lawful use up to one (1) month after its expiration, in order to allow for its renewal.

Both the **Road Traffic Act** and the **2022 Regulations** under the Act make this provision without imposing a penalty on motorists.

#### Can I renew my Motor Vehicle Registration Certificate before the expiry date?

**YES!** Interestingly, the **Road Traffic Act** allows motorists to apply for renewal up to 90 days (3 months) before and 1 month after the motor vehicle license



Motor vehicles

expires!

And, paying early will not affect how early the next expiration date will be.

So, for example, if your motor vehicle expires in May 2024 but you renew it in March 2024, for one year, the next expiry date will be April 2025!

#### Can I receive a ticket for not yet replacing my registration after the expiry date?

Penalizing motorists for not yet replacing their registration document may be at the discretion of JCF members. However, remember that the purpose of the Grace Period is to allow for the renewal of documents!!!

#### Where can you renew your Motor Vehicle Registration Certificate?

The renewal of motor vehicle registration can be done at any branch of the Tax Administration of Jamaica (TAJ). The various branches of the TAJ are usually open from Monday - Wednesday between 8:30am - 4:00pm, as well as Thursday - Friday between 8:30am - 3:00pm. You may also renew the registration certificate online on the TAJ E-service Platform at **Tax Administration Jamaica - TAJ Portal**

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