



Lynn Fitch
ATTORNEY GENERAL
OPINIONS AND POLICY

January 30, 2025

Mr. Kevin Miller
Jackson County Tax Collector
Post Office Box 998
Pascagoula, Mississippi 39568

Re: Acceptable Forms of Identification for Vehicle Registration

Dear Mr. Miller:

The Office of the Attorney General has received your request for an official opinion.

Question Presented

Is a consulate ID and/or foreign passport a sufficient form of identification for the registration of a vehicle pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated Section 27-19-57?

Brief Response

While Section 27-19-57 does not require “a Mississippi driver’s license as a condition for the registration of a vehicle . . .,” it does acknowledge that proof of ID may be required, and in those situations, neither a consulate ID nor a foreign passport is sufficient.

Applicable Law and Discussion

Section 27-19-57(5) provides:

No tax collector shall require a person to provide a Mississippi driver’s license as a condition for the registration of a vehicle, provided that such person, if required, must show proof of identification in the form of a driver’s license or other government identification *issued from any U.S. state or territory, including the District of Columbia.*

(emphasis added).

Mr. Kevin Miller
January 30, 2025
Page 2

A consulate ID, also known as a consular identification card or CID, is a photo identification card that some governments issue to their citizens living in a foreign country.¹ A consulate ID is not government identification issued from a U.S. state or territory. Likewise, a foreign passport is not government identification issued from a U.S. state or territory. Accordingly, while Section 27-19-57 does not require “a Mississippi driver’s license as a condition for the registration of a vehicle . . . ,” because the statute acknowledges that proof of ID may be required, in those situations, neither a consulate ID nor a foreign passport is sufficient.

If this office may be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

LYNN FITCH, ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: */s/ Maggie Kate Bobo*

Maggie Kate Bobo
Special Assistant Attorney General

OFFICIAL OPINION

¹ See *Buquer v. City of Indianapolis*, 797 F. Supp. 2d 905, 912 (S.D. Ind. 2011) (“Consular identification documents (‘CIDs’) are photo identification cards issued by many embassies and consulates, including the United States, to encourage their citizens abroad to register with the consulates so that they can receive standard consular services, be notified if necessary, and be located upon inquiry by relatives and authorities.”) (internal quotations and citation omitted).