



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State

August 28, 2006

Donald G. Schlesak
C/o Crystal Reporter
P.O. Box 695
Burlington, Wisconsin 53105

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Mr. Schlesak:

We are in receipt of your recent Freedom of Information Act request. I have reviewed your request and enclose the documents I received from the Secretary of State Department of Drivers Services that relate to your request.

Thank you again for your correspondence. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donna M. Leonard".

Donna M. Leonard
Executive Counsel

Enclosures

FIELD OPERATIONS MANUAL

Social Security Number

Illinois law (ILCS, Section 6-106(b) and 6-110) requires the Social Security Number to be placed on every application for a Drivers License and Identification Card. In special cases policy may allow the use of a special identifier in lieu of a Social Security Number. Foreign country Social Security numbers are not acceptable. The Social Security Number does not appear on the DL/ID.

The Social Security Number is used, primarily, as a secondary identifier. It assists in identifying records with duplicate numbers and/or in determining fraudulent attempts. Acceptable forms of Social Security Number proof are listed in the Identification Manual.

All persons without a Social Security Number should be advised that they will be required to obtain a number or "special identifier" (for religious objectors or diplomatic personnel) prior to the issuance of a DL or ID.

SPECIAL NUMBERS RELIGIOUS OBJECTORS

On January 1, 1972, a law became effective whereby a "special number" may be assigned, by Driver Services, to members of certain religious groups (Amish, Mennonites, etc.) whose faith will not permit its members to obtain a Social Security Number. This "special number" will be issued in lieu of the SSN. Facilities may not issue a number to an applicant in lieu of a social security number. All special numbers will be issued through the Springfield Office utilizing the procedures outlined below. Any "special number" that is issued will be formatted the same as the Federal Social Security Number. The "special number" will start with "999" in the first grouping; there are two numbers in the second group and four numbers in the third group.

Driver License

The applicant must state, in his/her own handwriting, in the "Remarks" area of the Exception Form, that he/she is a member of a religious group (identify the group) and that he/she wishes to apply for a Drivers license without obtaining a Federal Social Security Number. The applicant must then date and sign this statement. Facility personnel will complete the Exception Form and attach it to the complete DL or ID application, Attn: Director, Driver Services. The application will indicate 000-00-0000 as the Social Security Number it will be validated, a fee collected and a receipt issued. If the applicant has successfully completed all requirements for an Illinois Drivers License a 90-day, temporary Drivers License will be issued while the request is being reviewed. **A hard card photo Drivers License may NOT be issued at this time.**

FIELD OPERATIONS MANUAL

Social Security Number

If the request is approved, a "special number" will be assigned in place of the SSN. Letter will notify the applicant. When the applicant returns to the facility with the letter of approval, process the applicant as original Type Applicant/Type License at no fee, and issue a Photo Drivers License.

Identification Cards

An applicant who does not wish to obtain a SSN (for religious objections) and who makes application for an Identification Card, Handicapped ID or Disabled Persons ID Card shall not have such application validated. No fees will be collected. No receipt or temporary card may be issued.

An Exception Form will be processed and sent on to Springfield. Advise the applicant to return to the facility when he/she receives the letter of approval. He/she will pay the fee and receive his/her Illinois Photo Identification Card at that time.

SPECIAL NUMBERS MEMBERS OF THE CONSULAR CORPS

Members of a foreign consulate having a valid drivers license from their home country, need not possess an Illinois Drivers License.

A consul whose consulate is not recognized by the United States Department of State (i.e. Taiwan) and who wishes to obtain an Illinois driver's license shall notify the Division headquarters in the Metro Area or the Special Licenses liaison in Downstate. A consulate applicant shall submit his/her passport for review along with a letter on the consulate letterhead stating his/her association with the consul. This procedure includes family members and employees of the consul.

The applicant shall pass a vision screening, written exam, and road exam. If the applicant is under age 74 and possesses a valid driver's license from the US, Canada, or US possessions the road exam will be waved. If the applicant has been issued a Social Security number, he/she shall provide proof of the number. If the applicant has not been issued a Social Security number, a distinctive number will be assigned by the Driver Services Department Central Office in Springfield (via Division Headquarters Metro or Special License Section Downstate.) A consulate applicant whose consulate is recognized by the United States Department of State must apply for a United State Department of State drivers license through the United States Department of State.

**REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION TO RECEIVE
AN ILLINOIS DRIVER'S LICENSE WITHOUT USE OF A
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER**

AFFIDAVIT

State of Illinois

County of _____

ILLINOIS DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER: _____

I, _____ do hereby affirm that the use of a social security number on my application for a driver's license is against the religious convictions of my religious faith or sect for the reasons indicated below:

(Attach additional pages, if necessary)

Dated: _____ Signed: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20__

SEAL

NOTARY PUBLIC

ATTESTATION

I, the undersigned, being a religious leader or minister, do hereby and hereon attest that my personal knowledge verifies that the use of a social security number is against the religious conviction of the _____ faith, and that I am a religious leader or minister of that religious faith or sect.

I further attest that the applicant is a member of that faith or sect and is therefore, prohibited by that faith or sect from obtaining a social security number.

Signed: _____ DATE: _____

Title: _____

Denomination or Religious Group: _____

Address: _____

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules

ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

**TITLE 02: TRANSPORTATION
CHAPTER II: SECRETARY OF STATE
PART 1030 ISSUANCE OF LICENSES
SECTION 1030.63 RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION FOR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS**

Section 1030.63 Religious Exemption for Social Security Numbers

- a) For the purposes of this Section, the following definitions shall apply:

"Department" – Department of Driver Services within the Secretary of State's Office.

"Distinctive Number" – a number listed in sequential order.

"Driver Services Facility" – establishments throughout the state for the purposes of issuing driver's licenses and providing to the public other necessary services connected with driving.

"Organized Religion" – a group of persons with the same or similar beliefs brought together to exercise those beliefs.

- b) Members of religious groups whose faith will not permit them to obtain social security numbers may request the social security number be omitted on their driver's license application.
- c) The applicant for a special religious number shall state in his or her own handwriting on an exception form, supplied by the Secretary of State at a driver services facility, that he or she is a member of a certain religious group and that he or she wishes to apply for a driver's license without applying for a social security card. The applicant shall then sign his or her name immediately after the statement.
- d) Personnel at the driver services facility shall complete the exception form, attach it to the application for a driver's license, and mail it to the Director of Driver Services, 2701 S. Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, 62723. The exception form shall contain the full name of the applicant and his or her address including the county. It shall also contain the applicant's driver's license or i.d. number. This information shall appear as it was furnished on the application.
- e) The application and exception form shall indicate 000-00-0000 for the social security number.

- f) The applicant shall be issued a ninety (90) day temporary driver's license and a receipt if all other requirements have been met.
- g) The applicant shall sign an affidavit, supplied by the Secretary of State, stating that the use of a social security number on a driver's license is against his or her religious convictions and stating the reasons why the applicant holds these beliefs. The affidavit shall also contain a statement from his/her religious leader or minister attesting that the use of a social security number is against the religious convictions of the applicant's faith. The affidavit shall be notarized by a notary public.
- h) The affidavit shall be sent to the Director of Driver Services, 2701 S. Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, 62723. Driver Services shall contact the religious leader to verify the information. The affidavit shall be attached to the original application and examined for compliance with this rule.
- i) The applicant shall be notified by a letter from the Director of the Department that the application has been approved or rejected because the applicant failed to comply with the provisions of this rule.
- j) If approved, the applicant shall return to the driver services facility with the letter of approval and the receipt and shall be issued a driver's license with a distinctive number assigned by the Department in lieu of the social security number. If rejected, the applicant shall be notified he/she has a right to request an administrative hearing pursuant to 92 Ill. Adm. Code 1001 and Section 2-118 of the Illinois Vehicle Code (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1985, ch. 95½, par. 2-118).

(Source: Added at 11 Ill. Reg. 18292, effective October 23, 1987)