

February 6, 1939

Mr. Julian Montgomery, Engineer
State Highway Department
Austin, Texas

Dear Sir:

Opinion No. O-242
Re: Opinion as to who are ex-
empt from the payment of
registration fees on mo-
tor vehicles.

Your request for an opinion as to whether a motor vehicle must be owned by the United States Government or a governmental agency to be eligible to receive exempt license plates, and whether vehicles privately owned but used to transport mail under government contract, are eligible to receive the benefits of the provisions of the registration law relative to the issuance of exempt license plates, has been received by this office.

Article 6673a-3 expressly provides that owners of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers, which are the property of, and used exclusively in the service of the United States Government shall apply annually to register such vehicles but shall not be required to pay the registration fees therein provided. This article does not make any exceptions as to the ownership of such motor vehicles and expressly provides that they must be owned by the government or a governmental agency.

On January 2, 1932 Hon. T.S. Christopher, Assistant Attorney General, wrote a

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letter opinion holding as hereinabove stated. While the exact wording of the statute, at this time, is different from the wording of Article 6675a-3, the effect is the same, and we concur in that opinion and hereby adopt the same.

It is also our opinion that a vehicle which is privately owned, but used to transport mail under a government contract, is not entitled to receive the benefits of fee exempt license plates.

Yours very truly

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

REC:ob

By

Richard H. Cook

Assistant

APPROVED:

Francis M. Mann
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS