

Administrative Resolution No. (916) of 2021

Regulating the Sale of Vehicle Plate Numbers in the Emirate of Dubai^[1]

The Director General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority,

After perusal of:

Federal Law No. (21) of 1995 Concerning Road Traffic, its Implementing Bylaw, and their amendments;

Law No. (5) of 1995 Establishing the Department of Finance;

Law No. (17) of 2005 Establishing the Roads and Transport Authority and its amendments;

Law No. (12) of 2020 Concerning Contracts and Warehouse Management in the Government of Dubai;

Executive Council Resolution No. (8) of 2008 Establishing the Licensing Agency of the Roads and Transports Authority;

Executive Council Resolution No. (31) of 2011 Regulating the Activity of Trading in Vehicle Plate Numbers in the Emirate of Dubai;

Administrative Resolution No. (669) of 2009 Approving the First Edition of the Procedures and Rules Manual for the Online Sale of Special Plate Numbers; and

Administrative Resolution No. (315) of 2012 Concerning the Procedures and Rules for Conducting the Activity of Trading in Vehicle Plate Numbers in the Emirate of Dubai and its amendments,

Does hereby issue this Resolution.

Definitions

Article (1)

The following words and expressions, wherever mentioned in this Resolution, will have the meaning indicated opposite each of them unless the context implies otherwise:

Emirate:	The Emirate of Dubai.
RTA:	The Roads and Transport Authority.
Director General:	The director general and chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the RTA.
Vehicle:	A motorised machine, Motorcycle, Carriage, or any other machine designed to run on Roads, whether mechanically propelled or otherwise.
Plate Numbers:	This includes Special Plate Numbers, Semi-special Plate Numbers, and Unowned Special Plate Numbers.
Special Plate Numbers:	Vehicle Plate Numbers whose categories, codes, and digit formulas are determined by the RTA; or that have unique formulas that make them popular among the public.
Semi-special Plate Numbers:	Private Vehicle Plate Numbers classified in category (5), or classic Vehicle Plate Numbers classified in category (4) or (5), which have semi-unique digit formulas that make them popular among the public.
Unowned Special Plate Numbers:	Any Plate Numbers that start with code (A), (B), (C), or (D) and that are issued to any Person prior to the effective date of this Resolution, without granting him ownership or disposition rights, whether or not the right to use these Plate Numbers is transferred to any of the heirs of that Person prior to the effective date hereof. These numbers will be repossessed by the RTA where the Person is not survived by any heirs.
Special Plate Numbers Batch:	A set of Special Plate Numbers that are offered by the RTA for sale in one Batch.
Semi-special Plate Numbers Batch:	A set of Semi-special Plate Numbers that are offered by the RTA for sale in one Batch.
Batch:	This includes the Special Plate Numbers Batch and the Semi-special Plate Numbers Batch.

System:	The RTA traffic system through which the RTA services and transactions are completed, including the transactions governed by this Resolution.
Traffic File:	A special file created by the RTA for each Person wishing to avail of its services, including the purchase of Plate Numbers.
e-Payment Gateway:	An electronic service provided by the concerned Government Entities in the Emirate with a view to facilitating the payment by the public, from any place and at any time through direct debit from bank accounts, of the charges owed by them for availing of Government services.
Direct Sale:	The sale of Special Plate Numbers and Semi-special Plate Numbers directly to the public or Permit Holders without the need for them to participate in Auctions.
Public Auction:	A public process through which the public or Permit Holders are authorised to bid on Special Plate Numbers or Batches.
Limited Auction:	A public process in which the Permit Holders or Persons who meet the relevant prescribed requirements are authorised to participate in the auction, in accordance with the rules adopted by the RTA in this respect.
Auction:	This includes the Public Auction and the Limited Auction.
Nominal Value:	The reserve price of a Plate Number or a Batch, as estimated by the RTA in accordance with the procedures adopted by the RTA in this respect.
Permit Holder:	A Person authorised in accordance with the provisions of the above-mentioned Executive Council Resolution No. (31) of 2011 to conduct the activity of trading in Vehicle Plate Numbers in the Emirate.
Person:	A natural or legal person.

Scope of Application

Article (2)

The provisions of this Resolution apply to Plate Numbers and Batches.

Functions of the RTA

Article (3)

For the purposes of this Resolution, the RTA will have the duties and powers to:

1. determine Special Plate Numbers, Semi-special Plate Numbers, and Batches, in accordance with the procedures adopted by the RTA in this respect;
2. determine, in coordination with the Department of Finance, the Nominal Value of Plate Numbers, in accordance with the procedures adopted by the RTA in this respect;
3. determine, in accordance with the procedures adopted by the RTA in this respect, the Nominal Value of Batches. The Nominal Value of a Batch must not be less than the sum of all Nominal Values of the Plate Numbers included in that Batch;
4. determine the procedures for transferring the ownership of Special Plate Numbers and the Unowned Special Plate Numbers, and for issuing their ownership certificates;
5. determine the method for offering and selling Special Plate Numbers, Semi-special Plate Numbers, and Batches, whether through Direct Sale or an Auction; and determine the means of offer and sale, including through electronic channels;
6. determine the categories of Persons who may participate in Auctions;
7. determine, in accordance with the procedures adopted by the RTA in this respect, the frequency, dates, and durations of Auctions;
8. determine the programmes and smart applications required for completing the sale of Special Plate Numbers, Semi-special Plate Numbers, and Batches; and establish the relevant rules and procedures;
9. determine the procedures for payment of the prices of purchased Plates Numbers and Batches, whether through the e-Payment Gateway or any other payment method adopted by the RTA in this respect;

10. announce the dates, times, and details of Auctions using the method the RTA deems appropriate;
11. approve the appropriate processes and procedures for ensuring the validity, safety, and security of electronic documents and records, and all other matters related to the sale of Plate Numbers and Batches;
12. determine the methods through which, and the forms in which, the electronic documents and records required for completing the transfer of ownership of Plate Numbers are created, lodged, saved, submitted, or issued; and
13. perform any other duties related to the sale of the Plate Numbers governed by the provisions of this Resolution.

Requirements and Rules for Sale of Special Plate Numbers and Batches

Article (4)

A Person or Permit Holder wishing to purchase a Special Plate Number or a Batch must:

1. comply with the general guidelines for using the System, including refraining from disclosing the username and password he uses to access the System and updating his personal information in the System on a regular basis;
2. have a traffic file;
3. pay any outstanding amounts or fines owed by him to the RTA, in accordance with the payment process adopted by the RTA in this respect;
4. pay, in accordance with the payment process adopted by the RTA in this respect, the fees for delivery of the purchase and ownership documents of the Special Plate Number or Batch, where this service is available;
5. pay, in accordance with the process adopted by the RTA in this respect, a security deposit in the amount of five thousands dirhams (AED 5,000.00) in case of participating in an electronic Auction, or twenty-five thousands dirhams (AED 25,000.00) in case of participating in a non-electronic Auction;

6. register with the RTA for the purpose of participating in Auctions, in accordance with the rules adopted by the RTA in this respect;
7. pay, using the e-Payment Gateway or any other payment method adopted by the RTA and within no later than ten (10) days from the date of winning the Auction, the price of the Special Plate Number or Batch plus the charges for issuing the ownership certificate for each Plate Number and any other taxes or fees prescribed under the legislation in force;
8. accept all conditions for participating in Auctions, including those relating to the dates on which security deposits will be refunded to bidders, and his personal liability for losing or disclosing any information or passcodes related to using the System; and
9. not be on the list of non-compliant Persons maintained by the RTA, in accordance with the rules adopted by the RTA in this respect.

Conditions and Rules for Sale of Semi-special Number Plates

Article (5)

In addition to the conditions and rules stipulated in paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4) of Article (4) this Resolution, in buying Semi-special Plates Numbers the following conditions and rules will apply:

1. A buyer must not purchase more than six (6) Semi-special Plate Numbers within a Year. However, a Permit Holder may buy any number of Semi-special Plate Numbers.
2. The number of Semi-special Plate Numbers recorded in a Traffic File must not exceed six (6). However, a Permit Holder may have any number of Semi-special Plate Numbers recorded in his Traffic File.
3. The Nominal Value of the Semi-special Plate Numbers must be paid in accordance with the process adopted by the RTA in this respect.

Conditions and Rules for Acquiring the Ownership of Unowned Special Plate Numbers

Article (6)

- a. In addition to the conditions and rules stipulated in paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of Article (4) this Resolution, a Person who has an Unowned Special Plate Number assigned to his Private Vehicle or retained in his name must comply with the following conditions and rules when applying for acquiring the ownership of that number:
 1. The form prescribed by the RTA must be completed online or using any other means adopted by the RTA in this respect.
 2. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the Nominal Value of the Unowned Special Plate Number must be paid in accordance with the payment process adopted by the RTA in this respect. The Nominal Value of the Unowned Special Plate Number will be determined upon approving the Person's application for acquisition of ownership.
 3. The fees prescribed for the acquisition of ownership of the Unowned Special Plate Number must be paid in accordance with the payment process adopted by the RTA in this respect.
- b. An Unowned Special Plate Number may not be disposed of before the full payment of the percentage stipulated in sub-paragraph (a)(2) of this Article and removing the relevant lien mark from the Traffic File.

Measures

Article (7)

Where a Permit Holder or a Person who wins an Auction, whose application to acquire the ownership of an Unowned Special Plate Number is approved, or who buys a Batch, violates any of the provisions of this Resolution, including by failure to pay any amounts owed by him or failure to take any necessary action, the RTA may take any of the following measures against him:

1. deducting any amounts payable to the RTA pursuant to this Resolution from his security deposit;

2. refraining from transferring the ownership of the Plate Number or Batch to him;
3. reoffering the Special Plate Number or Batch for sale in the manner the RTA deems appropriate; or
4. adding his name to the list of non-compliant Persons maintained by the RTA, and depriving him of participation in any Auction for Special Plate Numbers or Batches for at least one Year from the date of adding his name to that list.

Grievances

Article (8)

Any affected party may submit a written grievance to the Director General against any decision, action, or measure taken against him under this Resolution, within thirty (30) days from the date of being notified of the contested decision, action, or measure. The grievance will be determined, within thirty (30) days from the date of its referral to a committee formed by the Director General for this purpose. The decision issued by the committee on the grievance will be final.

Issuing Implementing Instructions

Article (9)

The Chief Executive Officer of the Licensing Agency of the RTA will issue the instructions required for the implementation of the provisions of this Resolution.

Repeals

Article (10)

Any provision in any other administrative resolution is hereby repealed to the extent that it contradicts the provisions of this Resolution.

Publication and Commencement

Article (11)

This Resolution will be published in the Official Gazette and will come into force on the day on which it is published.

Mattar Al Tayer

Director General

Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors

Issued in Dubai on 5 December 2021

Corresponding to 1 Jumada al-Ula 1443 A.H.

^[1] *Every effort has been made to produce an accurate and complete English version of this legislation. However, for the purpose of its interpretation and application, reference must be made to the original Arabic text. In case of conflict, the Arabic text will prevail.*