

Opinion No. 39-3103

April 18, 1939

BY: FILO M. SEDILLO, Attorney General

TO: Mr. J. O. Garcia, Motor Vehicle Commissioner, Bureau of Revenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Attention: Alfonso C. de Baca, Chief Clerk

{*36} We have your letter of April 14 inquiring whether or not the commissioner can give permits for emergency operations of motor vehicles without license plates.

I do not believe that the motor vehicle laws can be interpreted to give the bureau such discretion, and I know of no laws authorizing the giving of such emergency permits. Section 11-327, 1929 Compilation, expressly makes it a violation of the law to operate or to permit the operation upon the highway of any motor vehicle without first having it registered or without displaying the license plates thereon. Again by Section 11-415, 1929 Compilation, it is made a violation of the law to operate, transport or cause to be operated or transported upon any highway any motor vehicle without the payment of the registration fees.

By: A. M. FERNANDEZ,

Asst. Atty. Gen.