DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

June 12, 1979

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-61-79

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: PROCEDURE FOR IDENTIFYING LICENSED VEHICLES WHICH HAVE A FAIR MARKET VALUE UNDER $4,500

REFERENCE:

This letter provides an alternate procedure for decreasing the use of Bluebooks that should simplify the process in determining which vehicles have a fair market value under $4,500. Attached is a table which identifies by codes licensed vehicles having a fair market value under $4,500. This table is derived from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) "Vehicle License Fee Rate Table." The first time a vehicle is registered, DMV assigns a two letter code which corresponds to the vehicle's initial purchase price. To use the table it is necessary to have this two letter code, which is present on all California vehicle registration cards (see attachment). The table lists by model year the span of DMV two letter codes which represent vehicles with a fair market value under $4,500. Since the span of two letter codes increases for each model year on an annual basis, the table will be revised in January of each year by the Department of Social Services in accordance with DMV's "Vehicle License Fee Rate Table."

Instructions for Use of the Table

1. Locate the vehicle model year on the table.

2. Identify the two letter code on the registration card and compare to the two letter code span.

3. If the two letter code falls within the span of the letter codes for that model year, then the vehicle is valued at $4,500 or less.

4. For vehicles with a two letter code which does not fall within the span of two letter codes for that model year, follow the procedure as specified in Section 63-501.5 of the manual.

For example, a 1974 Datsun 610 which has been assigned the two letter code "AY" has a value under $4,500 because for model year 1974 the codes AA through BH have been identified. However, the Bluebook must be used to determine the fair market value of a 1977 Honda Accord which has the two letter code "BE" because for model year 1977 only the codes AA through BB have been identified. If the vehicle's fair market value is under $4,500 according to the table, we recommend that you note the model year and the two letter code on the "Application Worksheet" for verification purposes.

This table cannot be used when evaluating a used vehicle that was purchased outside of California. DMV identifies such vehicles by entering the year the vehicle was first registered in California in the asterisk year box (see attachment). At any time this box is filled in, the Bluebook must be used. This table also cannot be used to evaluate licensed antique, custom made or classic vehicles. County welfare departments should continue the current method of appraising such vehicles.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this table, please contact your Program Operations analyst at (916) 322-5475.

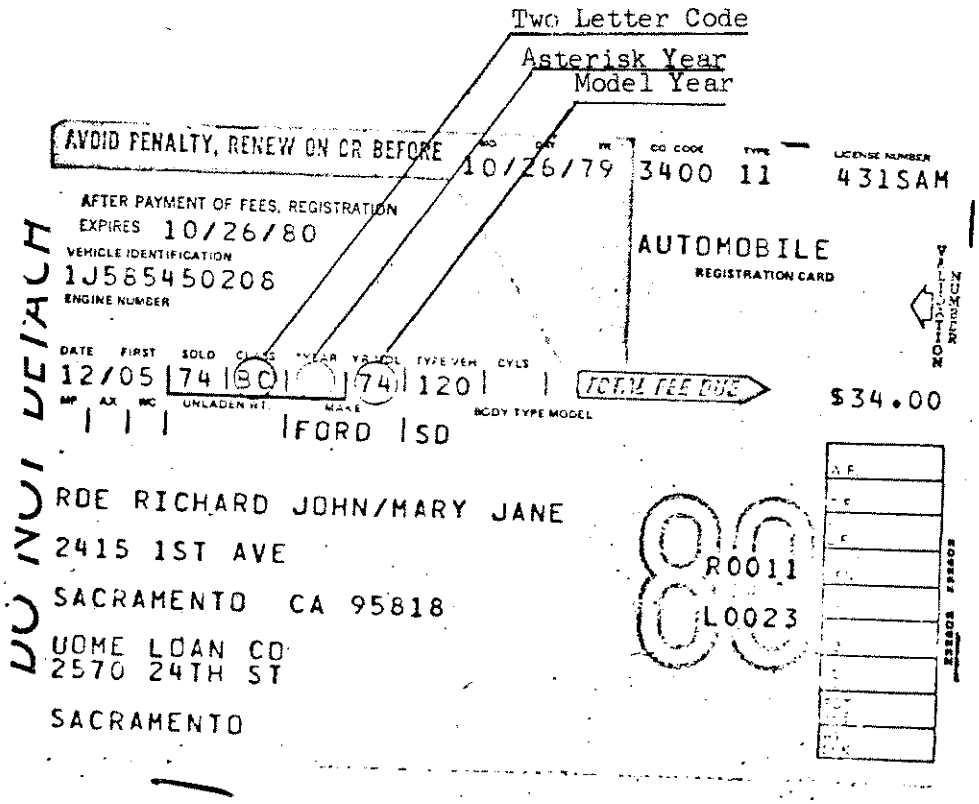
Sincerely,

Kyle S. McKinsey

KYLE S. McKINSEY
Deputy Director

Attachment

cc: CWDA

TABLE FOR IDENTIFICATION OF
VEHICLES WORTH LESS THAN $4,500

MODEL YEAR	DMV CODES WHICH REPRESENT VEHICLES UNDER $4,500
1978-79	AA-BA
1977	AA-BB
1976	AA-BD
1975	AA-BE
1974	AA-BH
1973	AA-BK
1972	AA-BM
1971	AA-BP
1970	AA-BS
1969	AA-BW
1968	AA-CB
1967	AA-CH
1966	AA-CN
1965	AA-CY
1964	AA DL
1963	AA-EC
1962	AA-FC
1961	AA-HW
1960	All vehicles under $4,500