TRANSPORTING PERSONS OTHER THAN STATE OFFICIALS and EMPLOYEES IN DOT VEHICLES

In accordance with the provisions of the Department of Management Services Rule 60B-1.004(1)(e), F.A.C., I authorize DOT employees who are responsible for the operation and use of a state owned vehicle for official state business to permit persons other than state officials or employees to travel in the vehicle provided these persons are conducting official state business or only on special occasions if the purpose of the travel can be more usefully served by including such persons and no additional expense to the Department is involved. This policy does not apply for the use of vehicles rented by employees for travel while on official business.

In addition, it is permissible to transport persons other than state officials and employees during disasters and emergency situations where the state must protect life and property. Providing assistance to motorists whose vehicles are disabled may be considered as an emergency when there is a need to protect life and property.

In all instances, employees who are responsible for the operation and use of a state owned vehicle are expected to carefully weigh all factors and to use sound judgment when considering the possible application of this policy. Actions which are determined to be violations of this policy will constitute misuse of the vehicle and will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Department's Disciplinary Standards.

Kevin J. Thibault
Secretary