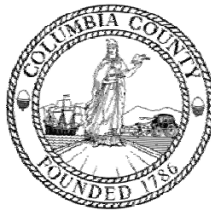


Columbia County
Office of the County Clerk
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Holly C. Tanner
County Clerk/County Commissioner of DMV



Patrizia Gallo, Deputy Clerk
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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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June 1st Deadline Approaches for Travel Documents – County Clerk Offers EDL or Passport Options

Hudson, NY

Columbia County Clerk Holly Tanner is reminding people that beginning June 1st, travel restrictions born out of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative will be in full effect, meaning that if you are traveling via land or sea you will be required to produce a document that proves you are a U.S. citizen in order to return to the U.S.

Luckily, Clerk Tanner states, there are several options for residents who are doing this type of traveling. The NYS DMV began issuing “enhanced” driver’s licenses and non-driver ID’s in Sept. of 2008. The EDL as it is referred to has been approved as proof of citizenship and as an alternative to a passport for land and sea border crossings to and from the U.S. To obtain a EDL you can visit Tanner and her staff at the Hudson DMV office with proof of citizenship, two proofs of residency in New York State and additional proofs of identity such as a birth certificate and a current driver’s license. An EDL is an additional \$30 more than a driver’s or non-drivers ID and are valid up to eight years for a driver’s license and ten years as a non-driver ID. For more information on the EDL you can contact the Hudson DMV at 518.828.3350 or stop in anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, or until 6:45 p.m. on Thursday evenings.

Another option available at Clerk Tanner’s office is the passport or passport card. A passport is acceptable for all forms of travel, lasts for ten years and costs \$100 for an adult. It can take upwards of six weeks to get your passport in the mail, so customers wishing to obtain a passport for travel should plan accordingly. A passport card is something new that the federal Dept. of State developed and is now available for purchase. Similar to the EDL, a passport card is used only for land and sea travel. It costs \$45 and is mailed to customers in about four to six weeks from application date. Forms for both a passport and the passport card are available at the Clerks office, customers need to bring in a photo ID and a government issued original birth certificate to apply. Photos can also be taken at the Clerk’s office, they cost \$10, although for the month of May if a passport applicant brings this article in, photos will be half-price - \$5.00!

Clerk Tanner also wants to remind everyone to Buy Local! “Conduct your DMV and passport business in our local office, to keep your tax dollars local – the county realizes no revenue with the state-pushed options of mail or on-line,” stated Tanner. The Clerk and DMV offices are open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., DMV is open until 6:45 p.m. on Thursdays.