

Motor Vehicle Advisory

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TO: All Law Enforcement Officials
FROM: Raymond P. Martinez, Chairman and Chief Administrator
DATE: January 12, 2017
SUBJECT: Autocycles

A new motor vehicle type has recently been defined pursuant to P.L. 2016, Chapter 35.

“Autocycle” means a three-wheeled motorcycle designed to be controlled with a steering wheel and pedals in which the operator and passenger may ride in a completely or partially enclosed seating area that is equipped with a roll cage or roll hoops, safety seat belts for each occupant, and anti-lock brakes.

The information listed below may be helpful regarding this recently classified vehicle-type:

- Autocycles are registered as motorcycles and beginning in mid-2017 they will be assigned autocycle-specific license plates that will be the same size and shape as the existing motorcycle plate.
- A motorcycle endorsement is not required for operation; only a basic driver license is required.
- A helmet, reflectorized on both sides, with a neck or chin strap, is required for the driver and all passengers unless the autocycle is fully enclosed.
- Goggles and a face shield are required for the driver and all passengers unless the autocycle has a windshield.
- Children who are required to be in child restraint systems are not permitted as passengers.
- All autocycles must be covered by liability insurance coverage.

With the exception of the new plate type that the MVC anticipates will be available to autocycle owners beginning in mid-2017, the above noted items are current law as of August 31, 2016.