

Autism Alert Indicators for Law Enforcement

Presented by Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police; Kansas Sheriffs Association; Kansas Peace Officers Association

As of July 1, 2017, a person with a qualifying degree of autism may request DMV to place an indicator the person is autistic on a driver's license or state issued identification card and to issue a decal to affix to a license plate and a placard which may be displayed in the vehicle. Application requires a physician confirmation of a qualifying condition. The person may choose how to display the placard, but in most cases it will likely be placed on the driver's side dash.

A qualifying person may choose to utilize all, some, or none of the indicators. If no indicator is utilized or observed, a person with autism may still be present. Likewise, the placard or tag decal do not guarantee the person with autism is in the vehicle.

The intent is to offer a method for officers to recognize when they may be approaching a person with a relevant cognition condition. <u>SB74</u> <u>Bill Summary</u>

It is a class C Misdemeanor for misrepresentation to obtain the placard, decal, license, or ID card and an unclassified misdemeanor (\$100-\$300 fine) to misuse the devices.

The placard and decal for the tag look like this:



Placard (Actual size same as Handicap Placard)

The indicator on the Driver's License is a "J" in the "Restriction" field and the explanation "J25-Cognitive Disorder" on the back.





Tag Decal

A similar indicator will be on the State ID Card.

Appendix A to the 2017 Legislative Summary Available at: <u>http://www.kslawenforcementinfo.com/2017-session.html</u> June 21, 2017