



## Responding to Fraud Letter



### **QUESTION: *I applied for a license, and I received a letter from the RMV about fraud. What is it?***

A “fraud letter” is a letter from the RMV notifying you that your license is suspended because of a law under the Massachusetts General Law of “Complaint Fraudulent License/ID”. This means that the RMV has flagged your license application, and they are suspending your license until the issue is resolved.

**Although the letter says “fraud,” this does not necessarily mean that you have committed fraud, it just means that the RMV believes that there may have been fraud.** It is important that you keep this letter safe, as you will need it to schedule a hearing if you would like to resolve this issue.

An example of a redacted Fraud Letter is available at the end of this document.

**NOTE:** If you recently received a fraud letter but you already have a license, **you should stop driving immediately.**

### **QUESTION: *Why did I receive a fraud letter?***

There are many reasons why you may have received a fraud letter. Some common reasons are:

- You applied for a driver’s license or other state ID using another person’s information
- Someone else used your name to apply for a license
- You applied to register a vehicle with someone else’s ID
- You used a foreign ID (like an ID/License/Cedula from your home country) that was not recognized by the RMV
- You applied for a regular non-driving identification

### **QUESTION: *What are the consequences of receiving a fraud letter?***

Depending on what the letter says, your ability to drive a car or apply for a license may be suspended for an indefinite amount of time, until you resolve the fraud claim. Please note that the existence of the letter will be known by immigration officials when you apply for adjustment of status. As such, it is important that you resolve the claim of fraud to avoid any issues with immigration authorities in the future.

### **QUESTION: *How do I resolve the claim of fraud?***

To resolve a fraud claim, you, or your attorney (if you have one) will need to schedule a hearing with the RMV. Please note that there are different steps if you have an attorney, *but you do not need an attorney to resolve this issue.*

### **QUESTION: *How do I schedule a hearing?***

**IF YOU DO NOT HAVE AN ATTORNEY,** you will need to email the RMV at

[Massdot.enforcementservices@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:Massdot.enforcementservices@dot.state.ma.us) with the attachments listed below. A hearing is an opportunity for you and an RMV enforcement officer to discuss the charges of your fraud letter, and issue a penalty.

**IF YOU DO HAVE AN ATTORNEY,** your attorney will need to contact the RMV using the following email address: [Massdot.enforcementservices@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:Massdot.enforcementservices@dot.state.ma.us).

**QUESTION: *What documents do I need?***

In order to schedule a hearing, you will need the documents below. The documents need to be submitted to the email address above prior to your hearing. If you do have an attorney, your attorney will submit these documents to the email address above. Note that these documents need to be sent to the RMV Enforcement Officer even if you have sent them before.

- Front and back of your driver's license or ID card from your home country
- A Birth Certificate or Passport
- Affidavit of No Social Security Number: This affidavit states that you have never had a social security number. **Please note that this [Affidavit of No Social Security Number](#) needs to be notarized.**
- Proof of address from RMV's acceptable document list. The acceptable forms of Proof of Address can be found [here](#).
- RMV Letter received

**NOTE:** Any identification or document which is originally in a foreign language needs to be translated based on the RMV requirements. The requirements can be found [here](#).

**QUESTION: *I scheduled a hearing, what happens now?***

The hearing is a phone call, and the RMV will call you or your attorney on the day and time of your appointment. At this phone call hearing, you will:

- Learn why you received a fraud letter;
- Learn if there are any other charges against you in criminal court or with the RMV
- Respond frankly to the RMV Enforcement and honestly explain the situation exactly as it occurred, without leaving any detail out. Denying that you used another ID when you did will not help your case; and
- Receive a penalty.

**QUESTION: *What happens after the hearing?***

The hearing officer will tell you what you need to do to get a license. **If the license suspension is your only issue, the penalty will likely be a \$500 fine, and a six (6) month suspension from being able to apply for a license or reinstate your license.** However, if you have other issues, like unpaid tickets, you may have additional fines.

Once a hearing has taken place and a penalty is issued, you will need to wait six (6) months and then pay the fine when you go to re-apply for a license. **Note that you do not have to pay the fine until you apply for or reinstate your license.**