



Candia Police Department

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Business hours- 603-483-2318

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Chad P. Shevlin
Chief of Police

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Town of Candia

FROM: Chief Chad Shevlin

DATE: 01/29/2026

RE:

CC: Dear Board of Selectman and Town Administrator Spencer

Good afternoon Candia,

There have been a lot of questions about what's going on with New Hampshire's vehicle inspection requirements. The State passed a law that would eliminate vehicle inspection stickers beginning February 1, 2026. However, Gordon-Darby Holdings, the company involved with the emissions portion of the inspection program, has filed a lawsuit in federal court trying to stop that change.

Yesterday, a federal judge issued a temporary injunction. In simple terms, that puts the State's plan on pause until the courts sort this out. I truly believe the state is doing what they can to work it out.

At the Candia Police Department, vehicle safety will always be the priority. When enforcing motor vehicle laws, our focus remains on real safety issues. An unsafe vehicle is more than an inconvenience, it's a hazard! Mechanical problems like worn tires, brake failure, broken suspension, or missing lights can cause loss of control and serious injury to people who did nothing wrong except share the roadway. That's why we continue to focus on real safety issues **Because one neglected vehicle can change lives in an instant!**

While inspection stickers are technically required right now, we also recognize there's a lot of uncertainty about this situation. **Our officers have discretion**, and we will not be prioritizing traffic stops solely for expired or missing inspection stickers. The courts and lawmakers need time to resolve this.

We are not encouraging anyone to ignore the law or skip vehicle maintenance. We strongly recommend keeping your vehicle in safe working order and having it checked by a qualified mechanic. We also do not speak for how other agencies may handle enforcement during this period. Our goal is easy to let residents know that, given the current uncertainty, strict enforcement of inspection sticker violations will not be our top priority until the courts or legislature provide clearer direction.

Respectfully,

Chief Chad Shevlin