From: MnDOT Library
To: Severen, Christopher N
Subject: [External] MDTLIB4654 Response to your question
Date: Monday, March 4, 2019 3:25:40 PM

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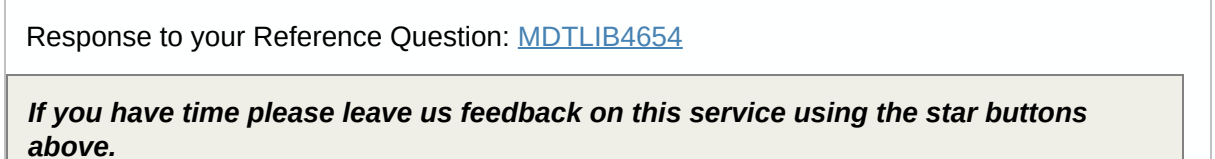
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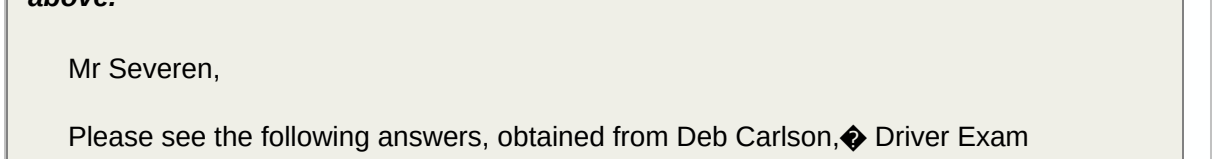
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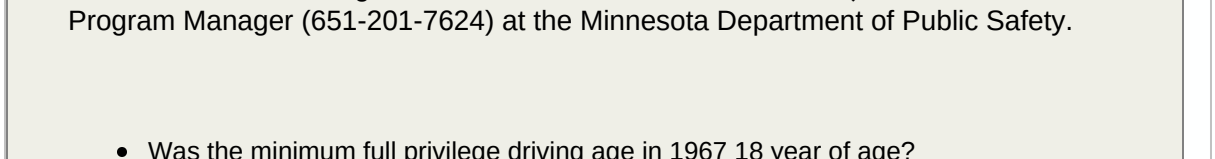
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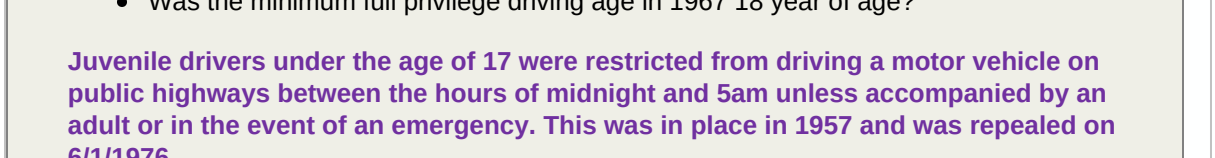
Poor

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Response to your Reference Question: MDTLIB4654

If you have time please leave us feedback on this service using the star buttons above.

Mr Severen,

Please see the following answers, obtained from Deb Carlson, Driver Exam Program Manager (651-201-7624) at the Minnesota Department of Public Safety.

- Was the minimum full privilege driving age in 1967 18 year of age?

Juvenile drivers under the age of 17 were restricted from driving a motor vehicle on public highways between the hours of midnight and 5am unless accompanied by an adult or in the event of an emergency. This was in place in 1957 and was repealed on 6/1/1976.

- Was 17 the minimum driving age in 1967, but with limits on night driving? (ignoring hardship cases)

On April 29, 1963, the minimum age at which a driver €™s license could be

obtained was raised to sixteen with some exceptions (farm work, medical)

- The laws seem to have changed by 1972. When did they change?

January 1, 1972 was the effective date for placing a colored photo on the driver€™s license and requiring the vision screening on every license renewal.€ Classified license law also around this time created Class C, Class B and Class A licenses.

- In 1972, it seems that the minimum driving age was 16, but that night driving was restricted until 17. Is this correct?

Yes, since April 1963 but repealed in 1976.

- The laws seem to have changed again by 1980. When did they change?

The only item I see in 1980 was a two tiered system of motorcycle endorsements. Unrestricted motorcycle endorsement if tested on a 260cc or larger motorcycle. 260cc or less received a restriction limiting operators that that size of motorcycle.

- In 1980, it seems that 16 year olds had full driving privileges, with no night driving restrictions. Is this correct?

Correct

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This response is in relation to your Question: MDTLIB4654

Question/Request:

I am trying to compile a database of minimum driver licensing ages from 1967-2000. My primary source is the Federal Highway Administration€™s Table DL-101, €œAdministration, Terms, and Age Requirements for State Driver Licenses.€ Unfortunately, I do not have all years, and the contents and categorization of the table seem to change over time. The case of Minnesota between 1967 and 1980 is particularly confusing.

Can you help answer, or direct me to a source that can answer, the following:

- Was the minimum full privilege driving age in 1967 18 year of age?
- Was 17 the minimum driving age in 1967, but with limits on night driving? (ignoring hardship cases)
- The laws seem to have changed by 1972. When did they change?
- In 1972, it seems that the minimum driving age was 16, but that night driving was restricted until 17. Is this correct?
- The laws seem to have changed again by 1980. When did they change?

In 1980, it seems that 16 year olds had full driving privileges, with no night driving restrictions. Is this correct?

Thank you for contacting us.

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