



**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES**

*Providing Highway Safety and Security through Excellence in Service, Education, and Enforcement*

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Date: September 22, 2008  
To: Florida Department of Revenue  
Licensed Salvage Dealers  
Secondary Metals Recyclers  
Florida Tax Collectors  
Florida Sheriffs Association  
Florida Police Chiefs Association  
Florida Independent Automobile Dealers Association  
Florida Auto Theft Intelligence Unit  
Professional Wreckers of Florida Association  
Florida Department of Law Enforcement

From: Carl A. Ford, Director, Division of Motor Vehicles  
Re: Derelict Motor Vehicle Certificates

New laws passed during the 2008 legislative session created derelict motor vehicle certificates, defined derelict motor vehicles and created new requirements for destroying or dismantling derelict motor vehicles or mobile homes. The new laws become effective October 1, 2008.

A derelict motor vehicle is any motor vehicle or mobile home which is valued under \$1,000, is at least 10 model years old, and is in such condition that its highest or primary value is for sale, transport, or delivery to a licensed salvage motor vehicle dealer or registered secondary metals recycler for dismantling its component parts or conversion to scrap metal. The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles licenses salvage motor vehicle dealers (salvage dealers) and the Department of Revenue registers secondary metals recyclers.

As of October 1, 2008, when a motor vehicle or mobile home is sold, transported, or delivered to a salvage dealer or secondary metals recycler it must be accompanied by one of the following:

- A valid certificate of title issued in the name of the seller or properly endorsed over to the seller
- A valid salvage certificate of title issued in the name of the seller or properly endorsed over to the seller
- A valid certificate of destruction issued in the name of the seller or properly endorsed over to the seller

- If none of the above certificates exist and the vehicle meets the definition of a “derelict motor vehicle,” the salvage dealer or secondary metals recycler must complete Form HSMV 82137, Application for Derelict Motor Vehicle Certificate and Request to Cancel Title. This form must be signed by the owner, the salvage dealer or secondary metals recycler, and the transporter hired to transport the motor vehicle or mobile home. This form must be submitted to the local tax collector’s office within 24 hours of receiving the motor vehicle or mobile home. Additionally, if any liens are shown on the motor vehicle record, the liens must be satisfied. The fee for the derelict motor vehicle certificate is \$6.

Additionally, electronic reporting to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles via the web for all vehicles sold, transported, or delivered to a salvage dealer or secondary metals recycler is expected to be available sometime in December 2008.

The new law effective October 1, 2008 removed the provision that allows for the seller to present a signed affidavit to the salvage dealer or secondary metals recycler indicating that the title had been surrendered to the Department.

Both salvage dealers and secondary metals recyclers must have a personal identification number (PIN) to apply for the derelict motor vehicle certificate. Salvage dealers will use their dealer license number and PIN number assigned by DHSMV. Initially, secondary metals recyclers will use the last four digits from their certification number issued by the Department of Revenue as their PIN number. PINs can then be changed by contacting the Division of Motor Vehicles. These PINs will also be used once electronic reporting becomes available.

Salvage dealers and secondary metals recyclers must store the motor vehicle or mobile home for 3 full business days, excluding weekends and holidays, before destroying or dismantling the derelict motor vehicle. They must also keep all certificates of destruction and derelict motor vehicle certificates on file in their offices for a period of three years from the date of purchase.

If notified by the Department, its agent or employee, or any law enforcement officer to hold a vehicle (mobile home, recreational vehicle, salvage motor vehicle, or derelict motor vehicle), the salvage dealer and secondary metals recycler may not dismantle or destroy the vehicle until it is recovered by a law enforcement officer, the hold is released by the entity that placed the hold, or 5 working days have passed since being notified of the hold.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Division of Motor Vehicles at 850-617-3001. Your cooperation and continued commitment to work with this Department is greatly appreciated.