

Florida

Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

Division of Motorist Services

PROCEDURE	SUBJECT:		
TL-49	MOTOR VEHICLES/VESSELS REPORTED AS STOLEN AND STOLEN TITLES		
DESCRIPTION AND USE: THIS PROCEDURE PROVIDES <u>INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS</u> TO ASSIST <u>TAX COLLECTOR EMPLOYEES, LICENSE PLATE AGENCY EMPLOYEES, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES</u> FOR PROCESSING APPLICATIONS INVOLVING VEHICLES/VESSELS REPORTED AS STOLEN AND STOLEN TITLES.			
<p>I. PROVISIONS OF LAW:</p> <p>Sections 319.33(1) and 319.33(1)(c), Florida Statutes read: It is unlawful: To procure or attempt to procure a certificate of title to a motor vehicle or mobile home, or pass or attempt to pass a certificate of title or any assignment thereof to a motor vehicle or mobile home, knowing or having reason to believe that such motor vehicle or mobile home has been stolen.</p> <p>Sections 328.05(1), Florida Statutes, reads: It is unlawful for any person to procure or attempt to procure a certificate of title or a duplicate certificate of title to a vessel, or to pass or attempt to pass a certificate of title or duplicate certificate of title any assignment to a vessel, knowing or having reason to believe that such vessel is stolen.</p> <p>II. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:</p> <p>When processing a DUPLICATE, LOST-IN-TRANSIT or SALVAGE THEFT transaction, an authorization code or copy of a police report is not required.</p> <p>NOTE: Salvage theft does not apply to vessels.</p> <p>A. If the Division of Motorist Services (DMS) database shows the motor vehicle/vessel has been reported as stolen and the customer does not indicate the vehicle/vessel has been recovered or that a title is needed for insurance purposes, treat this in a suspicious manner.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do not alarm or alert the suspected perpetrator. 2. Contact your supervisor and discuss the matter directly. If the customer asks why things are taking so long, inform them that the system is down or another appropriate reason for the delay. 3. It is important that your suspicions be reported to the proper authorities. 			
<i>Revision(s) to this Procedure: Updated Description and Use Section on page 1, changed Tax Collector to Field Support Center Help Desk, and updated the FDLE website link for information regarding stolen vehicles on page 3.</i>			
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<p>B. If the DMS database shows the motor vehicle/vessel has been reported as stolen and the customer states the vehicle was recovered:</p> <p>Advise the customer (or generate a letter) to contact the reporting agency to have the stolen report released through FCIC in order to clear our records. When the stolen report has been removed from our DMS database, the application may then be processed.</p> <p>NOTE: The tax collector offices or license plate agencies have the option of generating a correspondence letter at any stage of the process.</p> <p>C. If the DMS database shows the motor vehicle/vessel as stolen, the customer states the vehicle/vessel is unrecovered and a title is needed for insurance purposes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Contact the Field Support Center Help Desk to obtain an authorization code in order to process the application. <p>NOTE: The authorization code will only be valid for that day.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Submit a copy of the police report along with the application for title. <p>D. If the DMS database shows the motor vehicle/vessel as stolen, and the owner on record wishes to add a lien to their certificate of title or the lienholder on record wishes to reassign the lien on the title to another lienholder:</p> <p>Contact the Field Support Center Help Desk to obtain an authorization code in order to process the application for the lien add or the reassignment of lien. A copy of a police report is not required, since the title is not changing ownership.</p> <p>NOTE: The authorization code will only be valid for that day.</p> <p>E. If a Florida Certificate of Title has been stolen from a dealership and they are still in possession of the vehicle/vessel, the following documents must be submitted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Form HSMV 82040, Application for Certificate of Title with/without Vehicle Registration, or form HSMV 82041, Application for Vehicle/Vessel Certificate of Title and/or Registration, accurately completed in the dealership name.2. A copy of the police report.3. Proof that the vehicle/vessel was traded into or bought by the dealership. This could be in the form of inventory or accounting records, invoices, etc.4. All lien satisfactions, for any liens, as shown on the motor vehicle records of this or any other state, if applicable. <p style="text-align:center">\</p>	
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<p>5. Sales tax exemption information should be specified on the form HSMV 82040, Application for Certificate of Title with/without Vehicle Registration, (under the "Sales Tax Exemption Certification" or "Non-Use and Other Certifications" section, indicate "other," stating that the vehicle/vessel is to remain on the lot until sold and will not be used by the firm or its representatives) or the same wording on form HSMV 82041, Application for Vehicle/Vessel Certificate of Title and/or Registration.</p> <p>6. Title fees.</p> <p>NOTE: The Certificate of Title must be issued in the name of the dealership, prior to the vehicle being sold.</p> <p>III. MISCELLANEOUS:</p> <p>The following link will take you to the "The Florida Crime Information Center Public Access System," (which is provided by The Florida Department of Law Enforcement) and will allow you to check a VIN number to determine if a vehicle/vessel has been reported as stolen in Florida:</p> <p>http://pas.fdle.state.fl.us/pas/item/displayVehicleSearch.a</p>	
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