

Motor Vehicle Procedure Manual

Vessel and Titles

Derelict Vessel Title Stops

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Legal Authority

[Section 328.09 \(4\), Florida Statutes](#) - Refusal to issue and authority to cancel a certificate of title or registration.

[Section 823.11 \(3\), Florida Statutes](#) - Derelict vessels, relocation or removal, penalty.

[Section 705.103\(4\), Florida Statutes](#) - Procedure for abandon or lost property.

Description and Use

This procedure provides information and instructions to assist law enforcement with the process of adding or removing a vessel title stop.

Definition of a Derelict Vessel

A derelict vessel is one that is left, stored or abandoned in a wrecked, junked or substantially dismantled condition upon any public waters or at a port in this state without the consent of the agency having jurisdiction thereof; including docked, grounded or beached upon the property of another without the consent of the owner of the property.

Special Instructions and Responsibilities

A. To request a derelict vessel stop be placed on the title of a vessel located in Florida.

1. A written request must be submitted to the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV) by a law enforcement officer under section [823.11, F.S.](#), as follows:
 - a. The written request may be provided by email to Derelict@flhsmv.gov

or,
 - b. The written request may be provided by fax to (850) 617-3946.

The written request must include the vessel's derelict status and the vessel title number or hull identification number.

The title stop code "DB" – Derelict Vessel will be added to the title record and will be reflected in the Vehicle Stop Inquiry function in FRVIS, in Motorist Maintenance and DAVID.

B. To request a derelict vessel stop be removed from the title of a vessel located in Florida.

1. A written request must be submitted to FLHSMV by a law enforcement officer under [823.11, F.S.](#), as follows:
 - a. The written request may be provided by email to Derelict@flhsmv.gov

or,
 - b. The written request may be provided by fax to (850) 617-3946.

The written request for the removal of the stop must include the law enforcement officer's statement that the vessel is no longer a derelict and reference the vessel's title number or hull identification number.

The derelict vessel stop does not prevent the registration from being issued as an original, a renewal or from being replaced.

Revision(s) to Procedure

Conducted a statutory review of procedure.

07/01/17: This procedure was created to provide instructions for the placement and removal of derelict vessel stops by law enforcement.