Louisiana Department of Public Safety
Office of Motor Vehicles
Policy 5.00 Name Usage on Vehicle Certificates of Title

Section: 4. Motor Vehicle Registration Requirements

Effective Date: 05/01/1986

Revised Date: 09/23/2021

Authority:
C.C. 3352
R.S. 9:292
R.S. 32:705-70
R.S. 32:707
R.S. 32:727 (A)
R.S. 35:12
R.S. 47:516
To view Louisiana Statutes: http://www.legis.state.la.us/

Objective:
- An applicant's full legal name shall be used to process a vehicle title and/or registration transaction, unless the applicant provides proof of name change granted by a district court in accordance with the law. No other name shall be permitted.

Definitions:
- **Legal Name -** The applicant's full legal name shall be defined as the given name or names as it appears on his/her official driver's license or identification card.[1]

Eligibility:
- Applicants are eligible to apply for a vehicle title and registration, if the name of the applicant(s) meets the requirements listed below and all other documentation requirements are met.

General:
- The applicant's name must read the same on all documents and must be validated with proof of the applicant's identification.
- **For Individuals:**
  - Names shall be recorded by the notary or Justice of Peace with the full first name, last name/surname, and suffix. Suffixes such as Jr., II, III, etc. must be used, when it is part of the legal name.[2]
    - An Affidavit of One and the Same acquired and completed by the notary or Justice of the Peace will be required when one of the following occur:
      - Name change, due to change in marital status
      - Court ordered name change
      - First name, last name/surname, or suffix are not identical on each required document

        - An affidavit of one and the same is **not** required when:
            - Middle name is missing from required documents
            - Documents contain the applicant's middle initial and not full middle name
    - Initials, nicknames, or pet names cannot be used for first names, last name/surnames, or suffixes to names.
    - No titles or ranks will be used as prefixes or suffixes to names (i.e., Dr., M.D., Ph.D., Col., Mr., Mrs., Miss, etc.)
    - In care of (c/o) cannot be a part of the name.
- **For Businesses:**
    - Names shall be recorded by the notary or Justice of Peace with the full name of the company.
    - Names must correspond on all documents.
        - An Affidavit of One and the Same is required when:
            - The name of the business does not correspond with the Secretary of State filing on required titling documentation, or an error with the name is detected in the documents recorded by the notary or Justice of the Peace.
    - Standard abbreviations should be used, when required, to define the type of business (i.e. Co., Inc, LLC, etc.)
    - Except for the hyphen (-) and the ampersand (&), punctuation marks cannot be part of the name.

Required Documentation:

- Applicable titling documents outlined in Section 4, policy 2.00 Basic Requirements for Obtaining a Certificate of Title.

Fees:
N/A

Related Policies:
Section 4, 2.00 Basic Requirements for Obtaining a Certificate of Title
Section 4, 2.03 Completion of Vehicle Application (DPSMV1799)

References:
[1] – Louisiana State Legislature. *Application for Certificates of Title; Exception; Salvage Title; Antique Vehicles; Reconstructed Title* (R.S. 32:707), retrieved from https://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=88520.
[2] – Louisiana State Legislature. *Names to be Given in Full, Together with Parties' Permanent Mailing Addresses; Identification Numbers* (R.S. 35:12), retrieved from https://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=92595.