Louisiana Department of Public Safety
Office of Motor Vehicles
Policy 20.05 Disposal of Junked Vehicles

Revised Date: 10/14/2026

Authority:
R.S. 32:1719-1720
R.S. 32:1728.2-.3
To view Louisiana Statutes: https://legis.la.gov/legis/home.aspx

Definitions:

- **Crush or Dismantle** - To render the vehicle in such a state that it cannot be used or rebuilt for use.[1]
- **Junked Vehicle** - Any vehicle which is in such a state of deterioration that it cannot be profitably restored and has a fair market value of $500 or less, as determined by using the rough trade-in value shown in the most recent JD Power guide.[1]
- **JD Power** – A vehicle valuation guide
- **Owner-Operator** – A person or legal entity who owns or operates a business engaged in the towing or storage of vehicles, and has a vehicle licensed as a towing vehicle under R.S. 32:1716.

Requirements:

- Each owner-operator who possesses a vehicle that meets the definition of junk shall make application for crushing or dismantling of the vehicle at the expiration of thirty (30) days from the mailing of the notice.
- Authorization from the Office of Motor Vehicles must be received prior to disposing of any vehicle defined as junk.
- **Tow/Storage Facility Junk Car Database**
    - The application for permission to crush/dismantle a junk vehicle is to be entered on the Tow/Storage Facility Junk Car Database on the Office of Motor Vehicles website https://expresslane.la.gov/omv. The following information will be required:
        - Storage Inspection License number as issued by Louisiana State Police, Towing and Recovery Unit
        - Vehicle identification number (VIN), make, year, and body style of the junk vehicle
        - The date the notice was mailed
        - Appraisal of junk as based on the most recent JD Power guide, showing the vehicle has a fair market value of five hundred dollars or less
            - If the vehicle cannot be valued by JD Power, an appraisal containing the year, make, model and VIN can be prepared by an independent appraiser
    - The Office of Motor Vehicles shall grant approval or notify the owner-operator of denial of request for permission to dispose of the vehicle within ten (10) business days from the submission of the application. The vehicle may be released to a licensed crusher or licensed dismantler once approval is received.

- Once approval has been granted and the vehicle has been released to a licensed crusher or licensed dismantler, receipt of sale shall be submitted through the Tow/Storage Facility Junk Car Database. The following information will be required:
    - Storage Inspection License number as issued by Louisiana State Police, Towing and Recovery Unit
    - VIN, make, year, and body style of the junk vehicle
    - Date of sale
    - The information pertaining to the crusher/dismantler: name, license number, address
    - Name of person authorized to dispose of the vehicle to crusher/dismantler

- **Salvage Yard Auto Hulk Database**
    - Prior to dismantling, crushing, or other destruction of the junk vehicle, the licensed crusher or dismantler shall submit the vehicle information into the Salvage Yard Auto Hulk Database located on the Office of Motor Vehicles website https://expresslane.la.gov/omv. The following information will be required:
        - Salvage Yard Name and Salvage Yard License Number
        - The Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)
        - The information pertaining to the seller: name, driver's license number, address
- Within seven (7) business days of crushing or dismantling of the vehicle, the licensed crusher or dismantler shall submit the following documentation to the Office of Motor Vehicles:
    - That a vehicle has been crushed or dismantled
    - A description of the vehicle to be crushed or dismantled and each part to be dismantled for salvage
    - The Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)
    - A clear, color photograph of all four (4) sides of the vehicle prior to crushing or dismantling

Required Documentation:

- The owner/operator shall maintain copies of the following documentation on all vehicles crushed or dismantled for a minimum of three (3) years. These documents shall be open to inspection by any law enforcement officer during regular business hours.
    - A copy of the original report of the stored vehicle including owner and lienholder information that was furnished by the Department or its authorized agent
    - A copy of the First Notice (DPSMV1821) that was mailed to the last registered owner, lienholder, and any other person with an ownership interest in the vehicle.
    - The original certificate of mailing stamped by the Post Office.[1]
    - The returned unopened envelope with the postal marking indicating an attempt to deliver the notice**,** if applicable
    - Vehicle Appraisal form (DPSMV1820)
        - Appraisal shall be based on the most recent JD Power guide, showing the vehicle has a fair market value of five hundred dollars or less
            - If the vehicle cannot be valued by JD Power, an appraisal containing the year, make, model and VIN can be prepared by an independent appraiser
    - A clear, color photograph of all four (4) sides of the vehicle prior to crushing or dismantling