



Louisiana Department of Public
Safety Office of Motor Vehicles
Policy 24.00 Transactions Involving Corporations

Section: 4. Motor Vehicle Registration Requirements

Effective Date: 03/01/1982

Revised Date: 01/08/2026

General:

- A corporation can be shown as co-owner with an individual.
 - Example: John Smith, Inc. and Mary Doe.
- A corporation (Inc./Corp.) doing business as (DBA) Co. (Company) can be shown if Co. is not incorporated.
 - Example: John Smith, Inc. DBA John Smith Co. (Co. is not incorporated, only trade name)
- Shareholders are not necessarily listed on SOS website as agents.
- Single-member LLC's are disregarded entities only for the purpose of income tax.
 - Example: A married couple can file as a single-member LLC and be a disregarded entity.

Types	Definition
Corporation (Corp.)/Incorporated (Inc.)	a company or group of people authorized to act as a single entity
Company (Co)	a legal entity formed by one or more individuals to engage in business
Limited Liability Company (LLC)	a business structure that can combine the pass-through taxation of a partnership or sole proprietorship with the limited liability of a corporation
Limited Liability Partnership (LLP)	general partnership where every partner has a limited personal liability for the debts of the partnership
Sole Proprietorship	someone who owns an unincorporated business by themselves
S-Corporation (S-Corp)	corporations that elect to pass corporate income, losses, deductions, and credits through to their shareholders for federal tax purposes
Shareholder	an owner of shares in a company.
Disregarded Entity	a business entity that has a single owner, is not organized as a corporation and has not elected to be taxed as a separate entity for federal tax purposes.

- **Tax-Free Transactions**

- An individual who has purchased a vehicle with his own personal funds before the corporation is chartered providing:
 - There is no assumption of a mortgage.
 - Vehicle is titled in individual's name in Louisiana.
- Corporation name change
 - Must submit amended charter showing name change.
- Merger of two corporations, providing the previous corporation has been dissolved.
 - The existing corporation would be required to assume the unpaid balance of mortgage
 - Present photocopy of merger or some document of the transaction in lieu of the bill of sale.
- A corporation which has been fully liquidated can transfer a vehicle to a stockholder in return for stock. An act of donation and any **one** of the following is acceptable:
 - Title assigned by an officer of corporation and notarized statement by an officer of corporation (other than himself) that the vehicle was given in exchange for shares of stock which are to be cancelled
 - If the corporation was solely owned by the individual who is making application for title in his name, a notarized affidavit must be submitted stating this fact.
 - Copy of the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting specifically authorizing the donation.
 - A photocopy of the depreciation schedule indicating the vehicle was completely depreciated off the corporate books.
 - The depreciation schedule should include the VIN, make, and year of the subject vehicle OR adequate information to sustain verification that subject vehicle is the specific vehicle in question.
- When a spin-off occurs to comply with a Federal Anti-Trust Law, Applicant must furnish an affidavit executed by the organizer of a newly formed corporation stating that its assets were formerly part of the transferor's assets on which tax had already been paid.
- A vehicle titled in the name of an individual and corporation contends it should have been titled in the corporation's name (or vice-versa). Correction can be made provided these documents are submitted:
 - A photocopy of cancelled check made payable by the intended purchaser to the dealer for purchase of the vehicle.
 - Notarized statement from the taxpayer confirming the error.
 - Corrected invoice indicating the correct purchaser's name.
 - Title
 - Corrected Lienholder documents if a lien is recorded
- Vehicle titled in the name of a corporation can be transferred to an individual by submitting proof the vehicle has been fully depreciated off the books of the corporation provided an act of donation is done and **one** of the following documents is submitted:
 - Photocopy of the ledger sheet indicating a zero balance.
 - Copy of the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting

specifically authorizing the donation and stating that the vehicle has been fully depreciated.

- Each document should include the VIN, make, and year of the subject vehicle OR adequate information to sustain verification that subject vehicle is the specific vehicle in question.
- A shareholder of a corporation can donate a vehicle titled in the name of the corporation provided these documents are submitted:
 - A copy of the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting authorizing the donation.
 - An act of donation, which includes the VIN, make, and year of vehicle, executed by the shareholder of the corporation before a notary and two (2) witnesses.
- **Taxable Transactions:**
 - Assumption of mortgage by newly chartered corporation.
 - Transfer of vehicle from corporation still in existence to another corporation.
 - Transfer of vehicle purchased by and titled in the name of the corporation to an individual (except in "Tax-Free Transactions" listed above).
 - Transfer of vehicle from an individual to his pre-existing corporation.
 - Transfer of vehicle from individual to any corporation in exchange for stock.