Louisiana Department of Public Safety
Office of Motor Vehicles
Policy 99.00 Vehicles Seized for Forfeiture

Section: 4. Motor Vehicle Registration Requirements

Effective Date: 07/11/1990

Revised Date: 06/07/2013

Authority:
R.S. 32:702
R.S. 32:707
To view Louisiana Statutes: http://www.legis.state.la.us

General:

- Act 375 of the 1989 Legislature, known as the "Seizure and Controlled Dangerous Substances Property Forfeiture Act of 1989," provides for the seizure of vehicles for forfeiture by any law enforcement agency designated by the District Attorney.
    - Once a vehicle is seized, the District Attorney is authorized, but is not required, to file a Notice of Forfeiture Lien with the Office of Motor Vehicles, Specialized Vehicle Unit, Headquarters. This lien may be in the form of an affidavit.
    - Submission of the title document is not required by statute.

Requirements:

- **If the vehicle is sold by the State:**
    - Copy of court order reflecting that the State has clear title to the forfeited vehicle
    - Notarized bill of sale to the purchaser
    - A completed vehicle application form (DPSMV 1799)
    - Sales tax and fees as applicable
- **If the vehicle is released to the claimant:**
    - Judgment in favor of the person claiming an interest in the vehicle, ordering that the vehicle be released to same free of liens and encumbrances filed by the State in connection with forfeiture proceedings. If previous title showed a lien, the judgement will serve as our authority to cancel the lien.
    - A completed vehicle application form (DPSMV 1799)
    - Sales tax and fees as applicable.
- **If the vehicle is awarded to a specific public agency for its use:**
    - Copy of the court order ordering the vehicle forfeited to the State and further ordering the vehicle be awarded to a specific local, state or federal agency for its use free of liens and encumbrances. If the previous title showed a lien, the court order stating free of liens and encumbrances will serve as our authority to cancel the lien.
    - A completed vehicle application form (DPSMV 1799) in the name of the agency which was awarded the vehicle in the court order.
    - Sales tax and fees as applicable.

- **Release of Affidavit Establishing a Lien on a Vehicle:** The vehicle may be released by the seizing authorities to the owner, lienholder, etc. and a forfeiture will not occur. In order to clear the vehicle record, a notarized affidavit must be submitted from the District Attorney stating that the initial affidavit establishing the lien on the vehicle is cancelled and that all notations regarding same can be removed from the vehicle record. This release must be from the same District Attorney's office that filed the original affidavit establishing the lien. The affidavits must be submitted to the Specialized Vehicle Unit, Headquarters.

Related Policies:
Section 4, Policy 2.03 Completion Of Vehicle Application
Section 4, Policy 7.00 Open Titles
Section 4, Policy 80.01 Situations And Application Regarding Odometer Statements