

STATE OF COLORADO

DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Department of Revenue

Titles/Registration Section

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Bill Ritter Jr.
Governor

Roxy Huber
Executive Director

Joan Vecchi
Senior Director

Memo

To: County Clerks

From: Titles and Registration

Date: February 22, 2008

Re: Abandoned Vehicle Record Search Concerning Driver Privacy Protection Act, (DPPA)

TR 08-02

The Department has changed the Abandoned Vehicle title application process in order to come into compliance with the Drivers Privacy Protection Act (DPPA) (Act 18 USC 2721). This change will prevent the buyer of an abandoned vehicle to have access to the name and address of the previous owner.

In order to be in compliance with the DPPA, Law Enforcement Agencies, Tow Carriers, and Repair Shops must discontinue providing copies of the record search, notification letters, certified mail receipts and any other documentation containing motor vehicle record information to the buyer of the vehicle effective immediately.

Form DR2008 (Public Tow Vehicle Information Request), DR2008A (Private Tow Vehicle Information Request), and DR2147 (Repair Shop Vehicle Information) have a specified section indicating who was notified i.e., Owner, Lien holder, and/or Law Enforcement Agency and the date notification was mailed. This information will be used by the Title & Registration Section to determine if proper notification has been made.

When the Law Enforcement Agency (LEA) is selling an abandoned vehicle under home rule or City Ordinance (BOS POL) the above information must be provided on LEA letter head.

Law Enforcement, Tow Carriers, and Repair Shops must retain records of all documentation used when selling/disposing of an abandoned vehicle for a period of three (3) years, therefore the actual record search information, proof of certified mail sent to all addresses, and names shown will be available. The responsibility will be on the Law Enforcement Agency, Tow Carriers, or Repair Shop to provide the information to the Department when requested.

Vehicles sold on or after March 1, 2008 should not include the record search, e-mail (if required), notification letters, or certified mail receipts in the application for title. The only instance when the record search and e-mail conformation are required to be submitted with the application for title will be when department records indicate that there is 'NO RECORD' found. Law Enforcement Agencies, Tow Carriers, and Repair Shops have been notified of this change in procedure. The Title Manual will reflect these changes in the month of March revisions.

Note: Any abandoned vehicle application with a sale date of March 1, 2008 or later, containing owner and/or lien holder of record information will be rejected.

If you have any questions, contact the Audit and Compliance Unit at 303-205-5608.