Self-Certification of Vehicle Ownership

Introduction (read all instructions carefully)

[MCL 257.217(1)(d)] [MCL 324.80307(2)] [MCL 324.82105(2)]

The law provides for a self-certification process when an applicant cannot provide a properly assigned ownership document. This procedure is limited as a last resort to assist a person, dealer, or business who acquired a titled motor vehicle, titled trailer, trailer coach, ORV, moped, watercraft, or snowmobile and:

- Was not provided with a properly assigned ownership document and is unable to contact the previous owner for a replacement.
  OR
- Lost the properly assigned ownership document and is unable to contact the previous owner for a replacement.

Eligibility Requirements

Vehicles, titled trailers, trailer coaches:

- Must be 10 or more calendar years old
- Must have a value of $2,500 or less
- Must have been purchased in Michigan

ORV's:

- Must be six or more calendar years old
- Must have a value of $1,500 or less

Mopeds:

- Must be 10 or more calendar years old
- Must have a value of $2,500 or less

Watercraft:

- Must have a value of $2,500 or less

An applicant cannot use this procedure unless all possible options of contacting the owner of record have been exhausted. If an applicant needs to establish ownership for an item that does not meet the above criteria and cannot obtain a properly assigned ownership document, a surety bond or court order is required.

Instructions

1. The TR-205 Self-Certification of Vehicle Ownership form must be completed in full. Incomplete forms will not be accepted. Forms with insufficient information will not be accepted.

2. If applying for a vehicle, applicant must submit an appraisal. All non-dealer applicants must submit an appraisal showing the value is $2,500 or less. An acceptable appraisal must be:
   a. An appraisal completed by a licensed Michigan dealer
      OR
   b. A page printed from an on-line appraisal service such as Kelly Blue Book, J.D Power, Edmunds etc.

3. Submit the completed TR-205 form and all supporting documents to a secretary of state office.

4. A registration may be purchased as part of your transaction. For vehicles, proof of Michigan no-fault insurance must be presented.

CLEAR FORM

TR-205 Self-Certification of Vehicle Ownership

Information about the item acquired

Type of item acquired: ☐ Vehicle ☐ Trailer Coach ☐ Titled Trailer ☐ ORV ☐ Moped ☐ Watercraft ☐ Snowmobile

When was the item acquired? _____

Where was the item acquired? _____

Who was the item acquired from? _____

Why is there not a properly assigned ownership document?

_____

When and how did you attempt to contact the owner of record? (Phone, e-mail, letter, etc.)

_____

Additional information about the acquisition of the item:

Information about the vehicle to be transferred

Vehicle year _____ Vehicle make _____ Body style _____

VIN/HIN: _____

Value: _____

NOTE: A 6% use tax is due on the appraisal value or the purchase price, whichever is higher, as required by the Sales and Use Tax Act (MCL 205.179).

Information about the applicant

Printed name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Applicant's certification

The act of signing this form and its submission to the State of Michigan serves as my certification that the statements above are true to the best of my knowledge. I further certify the following:

- I am the rightful owner of the item described above
- I am entitled to title or register the item described above in the State of Michigan.
- I have exhausted all possible options to acquire a properly assigned ownership document.
- I have inspected the vehicle identification number (VIN) or hull identification number (HIN) on the item and have entered it above.

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

**Please note: Personally identifiable information collected on these forms is limited to what's needed to complete your transaction. For other ways your information may be used, visit Michigan.gov/SOS/policies