

Unclaimed Motor Vehicle Procedures

Franklin County Clerk of Courts

Revised: July 12, 2022

Dedicated Title Help Line: (614) 525-3090

www.franklincountyautotitle.com

Definitions Pertinent to Unclaimed Affidavit Process

Repair Garage or Place of Storage – any business with which a person entered into an agreement for repair of a motor vehicle or any business with which a person entered into an agreement for the storage of a motor vehicle.

Towing Service or Storage Facility – any for-hire motor carrier that removes a motor vehicle under the authority of section 4513.601 of the Revised Code and any place to which such a for-hire motor carrier delivers a motor vehicle towed under that section.

Value – the wholesale value for that make and model of motor vehicle at the time an affidavit is submitted under division (C) of section 4505.101, as provided in a vehicle valuation guide that is generally available and recognized by the motor vehicle industry, minus both of the following:

- a) The estimated cost of repairs to restore the motor vehicle to the wholesale value for that make and model of motor vehicle;
- b) The cost of any agreed-upon repairs.

Definitions Pertinent to Unclaimed Salvage Affidavit Process

Authorized Entity – any business with which a person entered into an agreement for the repair of a motor vehicle, any for-hire motor carrier that tows motor vehicles, or any place to which such a for-hire motor carrier delivers a towed motor vehicle for storage.

Motor Vehicle Salvage Dealer – any person who engages in business primarily for the purpose of selling salvage motor vehicle parts and secondarily for the purpose of selling a retail salvage motor vehicle or manufacturing or selling a product of gradable scrap metal.

Scrap Metal Processing Facility – means an establishment having facilities for processing iron, steel, or nonferrous scrap and whose principal product is scrap iron and steel or nonferrous scrap for sale for remelting purposes.

Value - means the wholesale value for that make and model of motor vehicle at the time an affidavit is submitted under this section, as provided in a vehicle valuation guide that is generally available and recognized by the motor vehicle industry, minus all the following:

- a) The estimated cost of repairs to restore the motor vehicle to the wholesale value for that make and model of motor vehicle;
- b) If the motor vehicle was towed by the party seeking title to the motor vehicle under this section, a towing fee;
- c) Storage fees for the period that the vehicle was stored without payment, up to a maximum of thirty days of storage fees.

Franklin County Auto Title Locations:

Auto Title North

980 Morse Road Cols, OH 43229

Auto Title South

45 Great Southern Blvd. Cols, OH 43207

Auto Title East

1583 Alum Creek Dr. 4153 W. Broad Street Cols, OH 43209

Auto Title West

Cols, OH 43228

<u>Unclaimed Affidavit Process - Repair Garage or Place of Storage</u>

Step One: Determine Value of the Vehicle and the Amount to be Paid to the Clerk.	 Verify that the vehicle value is less than \$3500.00. Wholesale value – Estimated cost of repairs – cost of agreed upon repairs = Value of the vehicle. (Wholesale value must be according to a vehicle valuation guide that is generally available and recognized by the motor vehicle industry.) Vehicle Value – Towing Fees – Storage Fees = Amount Paid to the Clerk Documentation to support estimated cost of repairs and agreed upon cost of repairs indicated on the BMV 4202 form will be required. Documentation to support storage fee total listed on affidavit. Documentation should be itemized by date and associated fee assessed for storage. Please see BMV 4202 for fee restrictions. Retain a copy of this documentation to file with the Clerk of Courts office.
Step Two: Complete Record Search with BMV or Approved 3 rd Party Vendor	 Contact the BMV Record Request line at (614) 752-7548 and establish a prepaid account for BMV search or to obtain a list of 3rd party vendors approved by the BMV to perform such record searches. Complete process required by BMV (BMV 1173) or by a 3rd party vendor to obtain records information for:
Step Three: Certified Mail Notification UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE:	 You must wait 15 days following the completion of repair or agreed term of storage before mailing your certified mail notification. Mail a certified notice return receipt requested to the vehicle owner(s) and lien holder(s) using information provided by the BMV or 3rd party vendor. Correspondence must include where the motor vehicle is located, the value of the vehicle and your intention to take claim to the vehicle pursuant to the Unclaimed Motor Vehicle process. You must wait 15 days from the date notices were mailed and a signed receipt from the certified mail or notification the delivery was not possible from the vehicle owner and any applicable lien holders has been received, no additional mailings are required. If the vehicle remains unclaimed after this timeframe, you may file an unclaimed affidavit to obtain the certificate of title. Retain copies of the returned certified mail receipts to submit with your unclaimed affidavit. Returned receipts must include complete mailing address.

<u>Unclaimed Affidavit Process - Repair Garage or Place of Storage</u> (cont'd)

Important Notice:

If the records received from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles indicate that the person who requested the repair or who agreed to the storage of the motor vehicle is not the owner or lienholder of the motor vehicle, the repair garage or place of storage must also notify the sheriff of the county or the police department of the municipal corporation, township, port authority, or township or joint police district in which the said business is located and in possession of the vehicle. A Law Enforcement Notification Affidavit is required to be filed with your BMV 4202 – Unclaimed Affidavit.

Step Four:

Preparing Your Unclaimed Affidavit



Questions? Call (614) 752-7671

- Complete BMV 4202 Unclaimed Motor Vehicle Affidavit Form
- BMV 4202 forms are available at www.bmv.ohio.gov or (614) 752-7671.
- Ensure you include the following evidence with your BMV 4202- Unclaimed Motor Vehicle Affidavit form:
 - Copy of repair invoice/agreement or Storage Contract
 - Copy of current value of the vehicle as recognized by the motor vehicle industry
 - Record Search Results
 - Title Application
 - Applicant's
 Odometer
 Statement

- Signed Certified mail receipts or undeliverable notice
- Documentation to support estimated cost of repairs and agreed upon cost of repairs.
- Affidavit attesting to notification to law enforcement (if applicable)
- Documentation to support storage fees
- Any payments required

Step Five: Apply for Certificate of Title

- Visit a Clerk of Courts Auto Title Office.
- Please ensure you present all evidence listed in Step Four to the Clerk of Courts office.

Unclaimed Affidavit Process – Towing Service or Storage Facility

Verify that the vehicle has been towed under division (B) of Section 4513.601 Private tow-away zones. Verify that all provisions under ORC § 4513.601 have been met. Verify that the vehicle value is less than \$3500.00. Wholesale value – Estimated cost of repairs – cost of agreed upon repairs = Step One: Value of the vehicle. (Wholesale value must be according to a vehicle valuation Determine Value of quide that is generally available and recognized by the motor vehicle industry.) the Vehicle and Vehicle Value – Towing Fees – Storage Fees = Amount Paid to the Clerk Amount to be Paid Documentation to support estimated cost of repairs indicated on the BMV 4202 to the Clerk. form will be required. • Documentation to support storage fee total listed on affidavit. Documentation should be itemized by date and associated fee assessed for storage. Please see BMV 4202 for fee restrictions. Retain a copy of this documentation to file with the Clerk of Courts office. Contact the BMV Record Request line at (614) 752-7548 and establish a prepaid account for BMV search or to obtain a list of 3rd party vendors approved by the **Step Two:** BMV to perform such record searches. Complete Record Complete process required by BMV (BMV 1173) or by a 3rd party vendor within 3 Search with BMV or business days of the removal of the motor vehicle to obtain records information approved 3rd Party for: Vendor 1. Lienholder 2. Owners last known address For BMV Record Searches: BMV 1173 form must be remitted to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles according to the instructions provided on the document. Fees are required for record search. BMV will provide forms BMV 1148 (Title Record) and BMV 2433 (Last Known Address) containing the results of the record search. Retain record search results to submit with your Unclaimed Affidavit as a necessary piece of evidence. If the BMV Record Search indicates "No Records Found", the applicant cannot obtain title through the Unclaimed Affidavit process and must pursue a courtordered title. Mail a certified notice return receipt requested to the vehicle owner(s) and lien **Step Three:** holder(s) using information provided by the BMV or 3rd party vendor within 5 Certified Mail business days after receiving the owner(s) and any lienholder(s) information. Notification Correspondence must include where the motor vehicle is located, the value of the vehicle and your intention to take claim to the vehicle pursuant to the Unclaimed Motor Vehicle process. You may also use express mail or any commercial carrier service that requires a signed receipt. If a signed return receipt by any person or notification that the delivery was not possible is received, STOP, proceed to Step Five. In all other situations

Retain all copies of the returned certified mail receipts to submit with your unclaimed affidavit. **Returned receipts must include complete mailing address.**

proceed to Step Four.

<u>Unclaimed Affidavit Process – Towing Service or Storage Facility</u> (cont'd)

Step Four: Second Certified Mail Notification UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE.	 If the vehicle remains unclaimed thirty days after the first notice is sent, mail a second certified notice to the vehicle owner(s) and lien holder(s). Correspondence must include where the motor vehicle is located, the value of the vehicle and your intention to take claim to the vehicle pursuant to the Unclaimed Motor Vehicle process. You may also use express mail or any commercial carrier service that requires a signed receipt. If a signed return receipt by any person or notification that the delivery was not possible is received, STOP, proceed to step six. In all other situations proceed to Step Five. Retain all copies of the returned certified mail receipts to submit with your unclaimed affidavit. Returned receipts must include complete mailing address.
Step Five: 60 Day Waiting Period	 If during any of the above processes, the towing service or storage facility receives either a signed receipt or notification that the delivery was not possible from the vehicle owner and any applicable lien holders, no additional mailings are required. Wait 60 days from the date of signature or notification before proceeding to Step Seven. If within the 60-day timeframe, during any of the above processes, you never receive either a signed receipt OR notification that the delivery was not possible, then you CANNOT obtain or attempt to obtain a certificate of title to the motor vehicle using the unclaimed motor vehicle affidavit. You must apply for a court ordered title.
Step Six: Preparing Your Unclaimed Affidavit Questions? Call (614) 752-7671	 Complete BMV 4202 – Unclaimed Motor Vehicle Affidavit Form BMV 4202 forms are available at www.bmv.ohio.gov or (614) 752-7671. Ensure you include the following evidence with your BMV 4202- Unclaimed Motor Vehicle Affidavit form: Copy of current value of the vehicle as recognized by the motor vehicle industry Record search results Signed Certified Mail receipts or undeliverable notice Applicant's Odometer Statement Any payments required
Step Seven: Apply for Certificate of Title	 Visit a Clerk of Courts Auto Title Office. Ensure you present all evidence listed in Step Seven to the Clerk's office.

Unclaimed Affidavit Process - Authorized Entity Salvage Title

Step One: Determine the Value of the Vehicle	 Verify that the vehicle value is less than \$1500.00. Wholesale Value – Estimated Cost of Repairs- Towing Fee – Storage Fee (capped at 30 days) = Vehicle Value Documentation to support estimated cost of repairs and agreed upon cost of repairs indicated on the BMV 4209 form will be required.
or the vermore	 Documentation to support storage fee total listed on affidavit. Documentation should be itemized by date and associated fee assessed for storage. Please see BMV 4209 for fee and time restrictions.
	The motor vehicle is inoperable
	 The motor vehicle is impossible to restore for highway operation
	Retain a copy of this documentation to file with the Clerk of Courts office.
Step Two: Document that the motor vehicle is	 Photographs of the motor vehicle must validate the determination of the vehicle and be submitted to the Clerk with the BMV 4209 – Unclaimed Salvage Motor Vehicle Affidavit.
inoperable and impossible to restore for highway operation.	 Photos shall include, at minimum, the motor vehicle's VIN plate, body and any damage proving the vehicle is both inoperable and impossible to restore for highway operation. NOTE: If no VIN is available, a photo is required that clearly validates there is no VIN plate on the vehicle.
·	 Document physical description of the damage on the vehicle on the BMV 4209 – Unclaimed Salvage Motor Vehicle Affidavit.
Step Three: Complete Record Search with BMV or approved 3 rd Party Vendor Questions? Call (614) 752-7671	 Contact the BMV Record Request line at (614) 752-7548 and establish a prepaid account for BMV search or to obtain a list of 3rd party vendors approved by the BMV to perform such record searches. Complete process required by BMV (BMV 1173) or by a 3rd party vendor to obtain records information for:
Step Four: Certified Mail Notification	 Within 8 days after record search provides identity of owner and any lien holder the authorized entity shall send written notice to them to remove the motor vehicle by certified or express mail with a return receipt requested or by a commercial carrier service utilizing any form of delivery requiring a signed receipt. If vehicle was obtained by a towing service or storage facility as a result of being towed, then notice shall include notice that if the owner disputes that the motor vehicle was lawfully towed, the owner may be able to file a civil action under section 4513.611 of the revised code.

<u>Unclaimed Affidavit Process – Authorized Entity Salvage Title (cont'd)</u>

Step Five:	 Must wait 30 days after notices have either been received as evidenced by a
30 Day Waiting	receipt signed by any person or notice that the delivery was not possible before
Period	filing.
Step Six: Preparing Your Unclaimed Affidavit Questions? Call (614) 752-7671	 Complete BMV 4209 – Unclaimed Salvage Motor Vehicle Affidavit Form BMV 4209 forms are available at www.bmv.ohio.gov or (614) 752-7671. Ensure you include the following evidence with your BMV 4209- Unclaimed Motor Vehicle Affidavit form: Copy of current value of the vehicle as recognized by the motor vehicle industry Record search results Signed Certified Mail receipts or undeliverable notice Applicant's Odometer Statement Title Application

FORMS

- BMV 4202 Unclaimed Motor Vehicles Affidavit
- BMV 4209 Unclaimed Salvage Motor Vehicles Affidavit
- Clerk of Courts Law Enforcement Notification Affidavit



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES

UNCLAIMED MOTOR VEHICLE AFFIDAVIT

Section 4505.101 of the Ohio Revised Code (R.C.)

The purpose of the affidavit is to affirm that the requirements of section 4505.101 of the R.C. have been satisfied in order to obtain a certificate of title for an unclaimed motor vehicle with a vehicle value less than three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3500).

BUSINESS NAME OF REPAIR GARAGE / PLACE OF STORAGE (OR TOWING SERVICE / STO	RAGE FACILITY		
BUSINESS STREET ADDRESS	P.O. BOX	COUNTY		
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE		
BUSINESS OWNER / AUTHORIZED AGENT NAME	BUSINESS	TELEPHONE	ALTERNATIVE TELEPHONE	
VEHICLE INFORMATION The owner's information as ide	entified from the search of t	the records of the E	Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV)	
OWNER'S NAME ON TITLE	OWNER'S ADDR	RESS		
LIENHOLDER'S NAME ON TITLE (if applicable)	LIENHOLDER'S	ADDRESS		
VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (VIN)	YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	
VEHICLE VALUE (must be less than \$3500 to use this aff	īdavit)	'		
Wholesale Value (as provided in a vehicle valuation guide	recognized by the motor ve	ehicle industry)	(A) \$	
Estimated cost of repairs to restore vehicle to wholesal	le value		(B) \$	
Cost of agreed upon repairs			(C)\$	
VEHICLE VALUE		(A) -	(B) - (C) = \$	
Towing fees* (1) \$				
Storage fees* (only for the period of time the vehicle was stored without payment) (2)\$				
AMOUNT PAID TO THE CLERK		EHICLE VALUE -	· (1) - (2) = \$	
* Maximum fees for Towing Services, see page 2 of the affidavit.				
CHECK ONE BOX IN SECTION A OR B AND COMP	LETE REQUIRED INFO	RMATION		
SECTION A - REPAIR GARAGE / PLACE OF STORA A motor vehicle has been left unclaimed for 15 days or m (must include copies of notices and certified returned r	ore after the completion o		air or agreed term of storage.	
☐ Repair garage with a repair agreement	☐ Place of Sto	rage with a stor	age agreement	
DATE OF COMPLETED REPAIR / TERM OF STORAGE DATE	CERTIFIED MAIL SENT D	ATE OF SIGNED RE	CEIPT OR UNDELIVERABLE NOTICE	
SECTION B FOR TOWING SERVICE / STORAGE FA (must include copies of notices and certified returned r		ORITY OF SECT	ION R.C. 4513.601	
☐ Towing Service that removed the vehicle under division (B) of section R.C. 4513.601.	a motor veh	iclé under secti	-hire motor carrier delivered on R.C. 4513.601.	
DATE VEHICLE WAS DROPPED OFF / TOWED DATE OF 1ST NOTICE (within 5 business days of received BMV records search)				
DATE OF 2ND NOTICE (30 days after 1st notice)	DATES OF SIGNED	RECEIPTS OR UN	DELIVERABLE NOTICES	

UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED, DAYS ARE EQUAL TO CALENDAR DAYS.

BMV 4202 10/21 [17601081] Page 1 of 2

By completing this form, I am hereby affirming that ALL of the requirements of sections 4505.101 and/or 4513.601 of the R.C. have been met and I attest that all the information contained on this form is true and accurate. I understand that providing false information may constitute a criminal offense of falsification under section 2921.13 of the R.C. and is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

X		DATE OF APPLICATION
Notary		
Sworn to and subscribed in my presence this day of State of	, 20 in	County,
(Notary Seal)		
X Signature of Notary Public or other Authorized Officer by law	My commission exp	ires

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION MAY BE REQUIRED UPON REQUEST OF THE CLERK OF COURTS.

THE ACCEPTANCE OF PRESENTED DOCUMENTATION FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A TITLE IS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CLERK.

FEES

The following storage and tow removal fees for Towing Services are as is, until such time that rules have been established by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO).

REMOVAL OF VEHICLE		
Maximum fee	\$ 129	
Maximum fee for vehicles that exceed 10,000 lbs. (mfg. GVW*)	\$ 216	

STORAGE OF VEHICLE		
Maximum fee per 24 hour period	\$ 17	
Maximum fee for vehicles that exceed 10,000 lbs. (mfg. GVW*) per 24 hour period	\$ 29	

^{*}Manufacturer's Gross Vehicle Weight



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES

UNCLAIMED SALVAGE MOTOR VEHICLE AFFIDAVIT

Section 4505.103 of the Ohio Revised Code (R.C.)

The purpose of the affidavit is to affirm that the requirements of section 4505.103 of the R.C. have been satisfied in order to obtain a salvage certificate of title that is marked "FOR DESTRUCTION ONLY" for an unclaimed salvage motor vehicle with a vehicle value less than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1500).

thousand live hundred dollars (\$1500).					
BUSINESS NAME OF REPAIR GARAGE / TOWING	SERVICE / STORAGE FACI	LITY			
BUSINESS STREET ADDRESS		P.O. BOX	COUNTY		
CITY			STATE	ZIP CODE	
BUSINESS OWNER / AUTHORIZED AGENT NAME		BUSINESS	TELEPHONE	ALTERNA	TIVE TELEPHONE
VEHICLE INFORMATION The owner's infor				reau of Mo	tor Vehicles (BMV)
OWNER'S NAME ON TITLE	0	WNER'S ADDE	RESS		
LIENHOLDER'S NAME ON TITLE (if applicable)	L	ENHOLDER'S	ADDRESS		
VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (VIN) (if avails	ble) Y	EAR	MAKE		MODEL
PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE MUST VALIDATE THE DETERMINATION OF THE VEHICLE VALUE AND BE SUBMITTED TO THE CLERK WITH THE AFFIDAVIT. (Photos shall include, at minimum, the motor vehicle's VIN plate, body, and any damage proving the vehicle is both inoperable and impossible to restore for highway operation.) NOTE: If no VIN is available, a photo is required that clearly validates there is no VIN plate on the vehicle.					
VEHICLE VALUE (Must be less than \$1500 t	o use this affirlavit				
Wholesale value (as provided in a vehicle v		zed by the m	notor vehicle indust	try)	(A) \$
Estimated cost of repairs to restore vehicle to wholesale value (B) \$			(B) \$		
Towing fees* (C)\$			(C)\$		
Storage fees* (may only deduct fees for a r	maximum of 30 days fo	r vehicles st	ored without payme	ent)	(D) \$
VEHICLE VALUE			(A) – (E	3) - (C) -	(D) =\$
* Maximum fees for Towing Services, see page 2 of the affidavit. REPAIR GARAGE / TOWING SERVICE / STORAGE FACILITY The affidavit may not be filed sooner than 30 days after the notice of receipt has been received.					
☐ REPAIR GARAGE	☐ TOWING SERVICE		STORA	GE FACILI	ry
DATE VEHICLE WAS DROPPED OFF / TOWED	D	ATE CERTIFIE	D MAIL SENT (within 8 b	usiness days of r	received BMV records search)
DATE OF SIGNED RECEIPT OR UNDELIVERABLE	NOTICE	ATE OF VEHIC	CLE REMOVAL / DISPO	DSAL	
(must include copies of notices and certified reti	umed mail receipts)				

UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED, DAYS ARE EQUAL TO CALENDAR DAYS.

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By completing this form, I am hereby affirming that **ALL of the requirements** of section 4505.103 of the R.C. have been met and I attest that all the information contained on this form is true and accurate. I understand that providing false information may constitute a criminal offense of falsification under section 2921.13 of the R.C. and is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

SIGNATURE OF BUSINESS OWNER / AUTHORIZED AGENT	DATE OF APPLICATION
X	
Notary:	
Sworn to and subscribed in my presence this day of, 20	inCounty,
State of (Notary Seal)	
X My co Signature of Notary Public or other Authorized Officer by law	mmission expires

UPON RECEIPT OF THE AFFIDAVIT, APPLICATION FOR A SALVAGE CERTIFICATE OF TITLE, AND A FOUR DOLLAR TITLE PROCESSING FEE, ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION MAY BE REQUIRED UPON REQUEST OF THE CLERK OF COURTS.

THE ACCEPTANCE OF PRESENTED DOCUMENTATION FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A TITLE IS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CLERK.

FEES

The following storage and tow removal fees for Towing Services are as is, until such time that rules have been established by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO).

REMOVAL OF VEHICLE		
Maximum fee	\$ 120	
Maximum fee for vehicles that exceed 10,000 lbs. (mfg. GVW*)	\$ 216	

STORAGE OF VEHICLE		
Maximum fee per 24 hour period	\$ 17	
Maximum fee for vehicles that exceed 10,000 lbs. (mfg. GVW*) per 24 hour period	\$ 29	

^{*}Manufacturer's Gross Vehicle Weight

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UNCLAIMED AFFIDAVIT PROCESS

LAW ENFORCEMENT NOTIFICATION AFFIDAVIT

Note: This affidavit must be filed with BMV 4202 – Unclaimed Motor Vehicle Affidavit in situations where a person who requested the repair or agreed to storage of a motor vehicle is not the owner or lienholder of the motor vehicle as indicated in the record search results provided by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. (BMV 1149/2433)

State of Ohio			
County of Franklin			
Year:	Make:	Model:	
VIN:			
I,	agent fo	r	
` '	Do hereby swear that the above vehicles (Repair Require)	•	
After a search of the lien holder(s) are:	records was completed, it was determ	nined the legal owner(s) and	
Legal Owner:			
Lien Holder:			
We are applying for a	ın Unclaimed Motor Vehicle Title pı	ursuant to section O.R.C. 4505.1	01(A).
The		(Law E	nforcement Agency)
was notified of our po	ossession of the vehicle on	(date) by	(method)
Identification Present (Type & Number)	ed	Signature of A	gent
Sworn to and subscribed in my presence by		1	this
day of	, 20		
(Seal)			
	(Clerk, I	Deputy Clerk of Courts, Notary)	