

Motor Vehicle Registry Information Bulletin

R9 – Have you disposed of, or sold a vehicle? Notice of Disposal

Effective Date: 22 October 2007

Notice of Disposal and the Former Owners Responsibilities

The *Motor Vehicles Act* and the *Traffic Regulations* specify responsibilities associated with the ownership of a motor vehicle. These include amongst other things, the liability that may be placed on the owner in relation to traffic offences.

Under the *Traffic Regulations*, the vehicle owner may be liable for fines for traffic offences in which the vehicle is involved. This is even if the owner was not driving. If fines are in relation to certain traffic offences, demerit points may be incurred by the person who is liable for the fine (demerit points information is available from Motor Vehicle Registry outlets, www.mvr.nt.gov.au and on 1300 364 924). The owner may pass on the liability to the person who was driving or had control of the vehicle, if the owner can adequately identify that person.

When the vehicle is sold, this liability can be discharged when Section 20, Sale or Disposal of Registered Motor Vehicles, of the *Motor Vehicles Act* is complied with. The former owner or seller notifies the Registrar of Motor Vehicles that the vehicle has been sold to the new owner (buyer). This notification is known as a Notice of Disposal. Once the Notice of Disposal has been accepted the Registrar will update the registration database to reflect the change of ownership.

It should be noted that even though a Notice of Disposal has been submitted and the registration database managed by the Motor Vehicle Registry is updated to reflect the new owner (buyer); registration renewal notices may still be sent to the seller. This can occur because the buyer has not yet applied to have the vehicle transferred into their name. In these circumstances the seller may discard the Registration Renewal Notice.

Former owner's (seller's) responsibilities

When a motor vehicle is sold or disposed of, the seller must within 14 days after the date of sale or disposal, lodge with the Motor Vehicle Registry a completed Notice of Disposal, which is in the approved form, clearly written and legible and containing the following information:

- the full name and address of the buyer, which may be a Body Corporate, and
- that persons date of birth, not required for a Body Corporate, and
- the date of the sale or disposal of the vehicle, and
- the price paid for the vehicle, if any, and
- the Notice of Disposal must be signed by both the buyer (Agent acting on behalf of a Body Corporate) and the seller.
- the actual vehicle must be identified with/by the registration number. Other optional information may include the:
 - a) Make or Model
 - b) VIN or chassis number
 - c) Engine number

Important Note: Motor Vehicle Registry will not accept a Notice of Disposal from a former owner (seller) where there is incomplete, has missing information or it is unreadable. It is the former owners (seller) responsibility to obtain and lodge a fully completed and legible Notice of Disposal.

Acceptable Types of Notice of Disposal

Motor Vehicle Registry Notice of Disposal:

- Form R23 Notice of Disposal located on the reverse of a vehicle Registration Certificate
- Form R06 Notice of Disposal

Other types of acceptable Notice of Disposal:

- A written document which has all the required information as noted above including signatures of both the seller and buyer of the vehicle.
- An electronic or facsimile document which has all the required information as noted above which may require signatures of both the seller and buyer, see note below.

Note: Electronic (E-mail) correspondence such as documentation associated with an eBay contract is acceptable as the signatures of either the buyer or seller. Such correspondence must also contain an intention to purchase the vehicle and that actual vehicle must be identified with at least the registration plate number. Additional information such as the VIN or chassis number; or the engine number will also assist the processing of the Notice of Disposal.

Possessing a Notice of Disposal

Upon receiving a Notice of Disposal from the former owner (seller) the Motor Vehicle Registry (MVR) will:

1. Verify that all the information required under legislation (see above) in a Notice of Disposal is supplied and that the document is legible.
2. Process the complete Notice of Disposal and update the Registrars records accordingly to reflect the sale or disposal of the vehicle to the new owner.
3. If the Notice of Disposal is incomplete or illegible, it will not be processed by MVR. It will be returned to the former owner (seller) for completion/adjustment and re-lodging.

The former owner (seller) may still be held responsible for the vehicle, including any traffic infringement incurred by the use of that vehicle until Motor Vehicle Registry accepts and processes a complete Notice of Disposal associated with the vehicle

| Contact Details | |
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