

Application for Inspection of a Salvaged Motor Vehicle Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 90D Sec 20D (a)

MASSACHUSETTS REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES Title Division/Auto Theft Section
PO Box 55889 Boston, MA 02205-5889 Telephone: 857-368-8050

GENERAL INFORMATION

The salvage law and inspection requirement is a consumer protection and anti-theft law. The vehicle is "branded" for its lifetime and the brand appears on the title, e.g., "RECONSTRUCTED" or "RECOVERED THEFT" so that a consumer purchasing a vehicle will know its history. Vehicles are selected at random for inspection. We inspect the selected vehicle for its identity and record all major component parts replaced, either by number or receipt. This is to deter fraud and the sale of stolen parts.

The inspection is NOT a safety inspection. If the safety inspection sticker was removed from the windshield and replaced with a rejection sticker at the time of the damage appraisal, you may submit the vehicle to any official inspection station for a valid safety inspection sticker after the defects have been corrected and the vehicle has been properly registered.

We have several salvage inspection sites throughout the Commonwealth. An appointment is not necessary; inspections are conducted on a "drive-in" basis. Contact the Title Division/Auto Theft Section at 857-368-8050 or visit our website at www.massrmv.com for the days and locations of "drive-in" sites or to address any relevant questions you may have.

At the time of the inspection you will be required to have:

1. A completed Application for Inspection of a Salvaged Motor Vehicle, including the owner's sworn affidavit.
2. The receipt for the \$50.00 fee that you paid to "MassDOT."
3. Ownership papers, including outstanding Salvage Title or RMV receipt for title.
4. Insurance appraisal report.
5. Bills of sale evidencing acquisition of all major component parts used to restore the vehicle. If the vehicle was wholly or partially restored with "used" parts the receipts must contain the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) of the vehicle(s) from which the part(s) were taken.

Note: If an airbag has been replaced with a used airbag purchased after January 1, 2004, a copy of the certificate of title for the vehicle that the airbag came from must be provided, regardless of whether the airbag was purchased in Massachusetts or out-of-state. A "used airbag" is an airbag that has been removed from one vehicle and reinstalled in a salvage vehicle being rebuilt.

Except for a licensed dealer, a Salvage title CANNOT be transferred from private party to private party without the current owner first obtaining a salvage title in his/her own name or by completing the salvage process and obtaining the "RECONSTRUCTED" or "RECOVERED THEFT" title, whichever is appropriate.

Inspections by authorities in other states will not be honored in Massachusetts unless a prior agreement between the other state and Massachusetts exists. All Salvaged Titles vehicles must be inspected in Massachusetts if they are to be registered in Massachusetts. New York Salvage Certificates (Form 907A) are not accepted.

M. G. L. Chapter 90D Section 20D, Reconstruction or Restoration of Total Loss Salvage Motor Vehicle

(a) Any owner who reconstructs or restores a total loss salvage motor vehicle to its operating condition which existed prior to the event which caused a salvage title to issue under this chapter or the laws of another state, or who recovers a total loss salvage motor vehicle if stolen, shall make application to the registrar for a certificate of title and an inspection of the vehicle prior to the registration or sale of said vehicle. Each application for title and inspection shall be accompanied by the following:

- (1) the outstanding salvage title previously issued for the salvage vehicle;
- (2) bills of sale evidencing acquisition of all major component parts used to restore the vehicle, listing the manufacture's vehicle number of the vehicle from which the parts were removed, if such part contained or should contain the manufacture's vehicle identification number;
- (3) the owner shall also provide a sworn affidavit in the form prescribed by the registrar which states that: (i) the identification numbers of the restored vehicle and its parts have not been removed, destroyed, falsified, altered or defaced; (ii) the salvage title document attached to the application has not been forged, falsified, altered or counterfeited; (iii) all information contained on the application and its attachments is true and correct to the knowledge of the owner; and
- (4) the required inspection fee.

The vehicle identification number of every vehicle for which an application is submitted shall be inspected by an inspector at a location designated by the registrar. In addition, of the vehicles presented for such inspection, a certain number may be selected for inspection of the vehicles major component parts which have been repaired or replaced as part of the rebuilding process to determine that the vehicle information contained in the application and supporting documents is true and correct. The selection of vehicles to undergo said major component part inspection shall be on a random basis, in accordance with criteria and procedures established by the registrar by regulation, which may be changed from time to time as the registrar deems necessary. The inspector may examine the identification number of each part that has been repaired or replaced as a part of the rebuilding process in addition to the vehicle identification number, and may compare said numbers to the vehicle identification numbers and identification numbers of parts entered into any state, regional, or national computer network that records the identification numbers of stolen motor vehicles and the identification numbers of stolen parts. Nothing in this section shall establish a presumption that a part has been removed, falsified, altered, defaced, destroyed, or tampered with by a person submitting a vehicle inspection, if such part fails to contain a required identification label. The major component inspection shall not be for the purpose of checking road worthiness or the safety condition of the vehicle. No liability shall be imposed on the registrar or the commonwealth or its agents or employees with respect to any act or omission related to said inspection. A person aggrieved by an adverse report issued under this section by a vehicle inspector, may file a written request for reconsideration of the inspector's report with the registrar, within thirty days of receiving a written copy of said report. The registrar shall assign the request for review to a hearing officer, who shall schedule a hearing to be held within thirty days of the date of the request, at a place of the registrar's choosing. The hearing officer may affirm or overrule the decision of the inspector. A final decision by the hearing officer shall be rendered with fifteen days of the closing of the final date of the hearing.

(b) Upon satisfactory inspection results, and receipt of all required documents and fees, the registrar shall issue a new certificate of title in the name of the owner which shall contain the notation, "reconstructed," or if the vehicle was a stolen vehicle which was subsequently recovered in an undamaged condition, said certificate shall contain the notation, "recovered theft vehicle."

