

How to fill out REG 227 — Application for Replacement or Transfer of Title

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California · written against REG 227 (Rev 9/2024), issued under California Vehicle Code 4150, 5752 and 9265

/forms/california/reg-227-replacement-or-transfer-of-title/

Replaces a California title that is lost, stolen or ruined - and, on the same sheet, transfers the car to a buyer without waiting for the replacement to arrive. Tick the second box at the top and the seller, the buyer and any lienholder all sign this one form instead of a certificate that no longer exists.

This sheet is not the form. Download the blank REG 227 from the California Department of Motor Vehicles at <https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/file/reg-227-pdf> — always take the current revision from the agency rather than a copy. Print this and keep it beside you while you complete theirs.

Every line, in the order you meet it

1	YOU	The two boxes at the top	Replacement Title means sections 1 to 3 and you keep the car. Transfer of Title with Replacement means the seller completes 1 to 4 and the new owner completes 6 and 7. Watch out: Ticking the wrong one is the difference between a title posted to you and a car registered to somebody else. Read both lines before you mark either.
2	YOU	Plate, VIN and year/make	The identification strip above section 1, written one character per printed box. Watch out: These are comb fields. Crowding two characters into one box is how a VIN becomes unreadable at the counter.
3	YOU	Section 1, registered owner of record	Print your name as it appears on the title or registration, with your driver licence number and state, then the physical address and county. Watch out: Not as it appears on your licence if the two differ - the form says as it appears on the Title/Registration and means it.
4	YOU	County of residence	The county you live in, or where the vehicle is principally garaged. Watch out: It has a line of its own because California registration fees vary by county. It is not optional detail.
5	LENDER	Section 2, legal owner of record	The bank or finance company holding a lien. Left empty when there genuinely is not one. Watch out: The form warns in bold not to enter the name of the owners above. Unlike section 7, a true blank is correct here.
6	YOU	Section 3, missing title statement	Tick one: Lost, Stolen, Illegible/Mutilated, Not Received from Prior Owner, or Not Received from DMV. Then print your name, sign, date, and give a phone number. Watch out: Illegible or mutilated means attaching the old title. Not Received from DMV means allowing 30 days from the issue date first. And if your address differs from the DMV's records, this has to be filed in person.
7	YOU	Section 4, release of ownership	Print, sign and date again - this is the part that actually releases the car. Watch out: The signature of each owner is required where co-owners are joined by AND, and California shows AND as a forward slash. A title reading SMITH / JONES needs both signatures.
8	LENDER	Section 5, legal owner release	The lienholder signing off, with a notary acknowledgement beneath it. Watch out: This is the only notarised part of the form, and it is not yours. It also cannot be used at all on a vehicle with an Electronic Lien Title.
9	BUYER	The vehicle strip again, on side two	Plate, VIN and year/make repeated at the top of the new owner's side. Watch out: The two sides are processed as one document but each carries its own identification. Filling one and not the other stalls it.
10	BUYER	Date purchased and purchase price	The date of sale in month, day and year, then the price. Watch out: The price is what the use tax is calculated on, so it wants to match the bill of sale and the release of liability.
11	BUYER	Gift or trade	Only where no money changed hands: tick gift or trade and write the market value instead. Watch out: A gift from a qualified relative also needs a REG 256 statement of use tax exemption attached, and the relative list is short.
12	BUYER	Section 6, new registered owners	True full name as shown on the buyer's licence, with the licence number, address and county. Watch out: The transfer has to be completed within 10 days of taking possession. That line is printed at the top of this side of the form.
13	BUYER	AND / OR between co-owners	If the car is going into two names, the buyers pick AND or OR on the tick boxes between the name lines. Watch out: That single choice decides who has to sign the next time the car is sold. AND means everybody; OR means either one.
14	BUYER	Signatures, dates and contact details	Each new owner signs for themselves, with a date, phone number and email. Watch out: A company or business signature must include the printed company name and an authorised representative's countersignature - the form gives the format: ABC CO., by JOHN SMITH.

15	BUYER	Section 7, new legal owner	The buyer's lender. If there is none, write None. Watch out: Here the blank is not acceptable - the form asks for the word. An electronic lienholder also needs its ELT number and its details exactly as they appear on the ELT listing.
16	DEALER	Section 8, dealer's release	For a dealership releasing a car it acquired. Watch out: It stays empty on a private sale. Nothing about it applies to either of you.

What gets this one rejected

- Using it to release an electronic lien. The first line under the title says the form cannot be used to release a lien on a vehicle with an Electronic Lien Title, and that is a hard stop.
- Filing by mail when your address has changed. If your address differs from the DMV's records you must file in person with proof of ownership and your licence or ID card.
- Filing within 90 days of a previous replacement, without a CHP vehicle verification attached - the form requires one.
- One signature on a title held by co-owners joined by AND. California shows AND as a slash, and people read the slash as OR.
- A company signature without the countersignature. The form gives the format twice: ABC CO., by JOHN SMITH, or JOSEPH SMITH for ABC CO.
- Using section 5 or a REG 166 to release a lien on a vehicle two model years old or newer where the lender is not an ELT participant. The lender has to replace the title first, then release interest on the actual certificate.

☒ Amber is what you write ☐ Grey is a block somebody else completes The completed example follows overleaf.

Read off REG 227 (Rev 9/2024) and the California Department of Motor Vehicles's own pages, current as of 2026-08-23. Plain-language help with a form, not legal advice — where this and the agency differ, the agency governs. sellmycarhub.com



APPLICATION FOR REPLACEMENT OR TRANSFER OF TITLE

DMV USE ONLY		
DL/ID #	STATE	TECH. INITIALS

This form cannot be used to release a lien on a vehicle with an Electronic Lien Title (ELT)

☐ Replacement Title (Complete Sections 1 - 3)

☒ Transfer of Title with Replacement (Seller completes Sections 1 - 4, New Owner completes Sections 6 and 7, as needed.)

VEHICLE LICENSE PLATE NUMBER	VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	YEAR/MAKE OF VEHICLE
7 B X K 4 9 2	4 S 4 B R B C C 1 D 3 2 4 1 7 8 5	2013 Subaru

SECTION 1 — REGISTERED OWNER(S) OF RECORD — Please print name as it appears on the Title/Registration.

TRUE FULL NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE, SUFFIX), BUSINESS NAME, OR LESSOR	DRIVER LICENSE/ID CARD NUMBER	STATE
RAMAN, PRIYA N	C 2 2 8 8 7 4 1	CA
CO-OWNER TRUE FULL NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE, SUFFIX)	DRIVER LICENSE/ID CARD NUMBER	STATE

PHYSICAL RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS ADDRESS (INCLUDE ST., AVE., ETC.) APT./SPACE/STE. #	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
2418 Fruitvale Ave	Oakland	CA	94601

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OR COUNTY WHERE VEHICLE IS PRINCIPALLY GARAGED

Mailing Address (if different from above)	APT./SPACE/STE. #	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
Alameda				

SECTION 2 — LEGAL OWNER OF RECORD (LIENHOLDER/TITLE HOLDER) — Do not enter name of owners above.

NAME OF BANK, FINANCE COMPANY, OR INDIVIDUAL HAVING A LIEN ON THIS VEHICLE

BUSINESS OR RESIDENCE ADDRESS	APT./SPACE/STE. #	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
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SECTION 3 — MISSING TITLE STATEMENT — WARNING: Issuance of a replacement title cancels the original title.

If your address is different than what appears in the Department's records, you must file this application in person, bring the original or photo copy of proof of ownership (i.e. Registration Card or Registration Renewal Notice), and your Driver License or Identification Card. If the title has been replaced within the last 90 days, a CHP vehicle verification is required.

The Certificate of Title issued for this vehicle is (check box): ☐ Lost ☐ Stolen ☐ Illegible/Mutilated (Attach old title)

☐ Not Received from Prior Owner ☒ Not Received from DMV (Allow 30 days from issue date)

I agree to indemnify and save harmless the Director of Motor Vehicles for any loss suffered resulting from the issuance of said replacement Certificate of Title. I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

PRINTED NAME OF OWNER	SIGNATURE OF OWNER	DATE	TELEPHONE NUMBER
PRIYA N RAMAN	X Priya Raman	08/19/2026	() (510) 555-0148

SECTION 4 — REGISTERED OWNER(S) RELEASE OF OWNERSHIP AND/OR INTEREST

I/we release interest in the described vehicle. NOTE: The signature of EACH owner is required if co-owners are joined by AND (shown by / on DMV records). The signature for a company or business MUST include the printed name of the company/business and an authorized representative's countersignature on the signature line (e.g., ABC CO., by JOHN SMITH - or - JOSEPH SMITH for ABC CO).

PRINTED NAME OF OWNER	SIGNATURE OF OWNER	DATE	TELEPHONE NUMBER/ EMAIL ADDRESS
PRIYA N RAMAN	X Priya Raman	08/19/2026	(510) 555-0148
PRINTED NAME OF OWNER	SIGNATURE OF OWNER	DATE	TELEPHONE NUMBER/ EMAIL ADDRESS
	X		

SECTION 5 — LEGAL OWNER OF RECORD RELEASE OF OWNERSHIP AND/OR INTEREST — Must be notarized.

The undersigned lienholder (legal owner of record) certifies release of interest in the vehicle. This section and the Lien satisfied (REG 166) form cannot be used for non-ELT participants with vehicles 2 model years old or newer. The legal owner (i.e., bank, finance company, etc.) of record must apply for a replacement title first, and then release interest on the actual title.

PRINTED NAME OF AUTHORIZED AGENT SIGNING FOR COMPANY	TITLE OF AUTHORIZED AGENT SIGNING FOR COMPANY	TELEPHONE NUMBER
		()

SIGNATURE OF LEGAL OWNER (COMPANY NAME AND AUTHORIZED AGENT'S COUNTERSIGNATURE)	DATE	EMAIL ADDRESS
X		

NOTARY USE ONLY

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

State of California

County of _____

On _____ before me, _____ (HERE INSERT NAME AND TITLE OF THE OFFICER)

personally appeared _____, who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

SIGNATURE _____

(SEAL)



THIS SIDE FOR NEW OWNERS – EACH NEW OWNER MUST SIGN BELOW

Complete transfer within 10 days of taking possession of vehicle.

Must complete vehicle information below:

VEHICLE LICENSE PLATE NUMBER	VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	YEAR/MAKE OF VEHICLE
7 B X K 4 9 2	4 S 4 B R B C C 1 D 3 2 4 1 7 8 5	2013 Subaru

SECTION 6 — NEW REGISTERED OWNER(S) — Print true full name as shown on Driver License/Identification Card.

If the vehicle was purchased or received from a qualified relative [parent/child, grandparent/grandchild, spouse, domestic partner, siblings (must be minors, related by blood or adoption)], a Statement of Facts (REG 256) form, Statement of Use Tax Exemption, must also be submitted.

Once registered, to sell, gift, or otherwise transfer ownership, co-owners joined by "AND (I)" require the signature of each owner; co-owners joined by "OR" require the signature of only one owner.

The signature for a company or business **MUST** include the printed name of the company/business and an authorized representative's countersignature on the signature line (e.g., ABC CO., by JOHN SMITH - or - JOSEPH SMITH for ABC CO.).

DATE PURCHASED OR ACQUIRED	PURCHASE PRICE	OR IF RECEIVED AS A GIFT OR TRADE, CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX AND WRITE THE MARKET VALUE:	MARKET VALUE
Mo. 08 Day 19 Yr. 2026	\$ 6,850	☐ Gift ☐ Trade	\$

TRUE FULL NAME OF NEW OWNER (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE, SUFFIX), BUSINESS NAME, OR LESSOR	DRIVER LICENSE/ID CARD NUMBER	STATE
OKAFOR, MARCUS D	D 4 4 7 1 9 0 3	CA

TRUE FULL NAME OF CO-OWNER OR LESSEE (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE, SUFFIX)	DRIVER LICENSE/ID CARD NUMBER	STATE
☐ AND ☐ OR		

TRUE FULL NAME OF CO-OWNER OR LESSEE (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE, SUFFIX)	DRIVER LICENSE/ID CARD NUMBER	STATE
☐ AND ☐ OR		

PHYSICAL RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS ADDRESS (INCLUDE ST., AVE., ETC.) APT./SPACE/STE. # CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
907 Bella Vista Way Sacramento	CA	95833

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OR COUNTY WHERE VEHICLE IS PRINCIPALLY GARAGED	EQUIPMENT NUMBER (OPTIONAL)

MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE) APT./SPACE/STE. # CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE

LESSEE ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT FROM ADDRESS ABOVE)

The above owner mailing address is valid, existing, and an accurate mailing address. I consent to receive service of process at this mailing address pursuant to Section 1808.21 of the California Vehicle Code. I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

SIGNATURE(S) OF ALL NEW OWNER(S)	DATE	TELEPHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
X	08/19/2026	(916) 555-0192	m.okafor@example.com
SIGNATURE(S) OF ALL NEW OWNER(S)	DATE	TELEPHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
X		()	
SIGNATURE(S) OF ALL NEW OWNER(S)	DATE	TELEPHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
X		()	

SECTION 7 — NEW LEGAL OWNER (LIENHOLDER/TITLE HOLDER) — If none, write "None."

Attention ELT Legal Owners: ELT # must be shown and the name and address **must** be entered **exactly** as shown on the ELT listing.

TRUE FULL NAME OF BANK/FINANCE COMPANY OR INDIVIDUAL — DO NOT RE-ENTER NAME OF NEW REGISTERED OWNER(S) ABOVE	ELECTRONIC LIENHOLDER ID NO.
NONE	ELT#

PHYSICAL RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS ADDRESS (INCLUDE ST., AVE., ETC.) APT./SPACE/STE. # CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE

MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE) APT./SPACE/STE. # CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE

SECTION 8 — DEALER'S RELEASE OF ACQUIRED VEHICLE

NAME OF DEALERSHIP	NAME OF BUYER	DATE SOLD	R/S NUMBER
SIGNATURE OF DEALER AGENT	PRINTED NAME OF DEALER AGENT	DEALER NUMBER	SALESPERSON NUMBER
X			
NAME OF DEALERSHIP	NAME OF BUYER	DATE SOLD	R/S NUMBER
SIGNATURE OF DEALER AGENT	PRINTED NAME OF DEALER AGENT	DEALER NUMBER	SALESPERSON NUMBER
X			



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