How to fill out CS-L(MVR)44 — Application for Re-Registration of Motor Vehicle Repossessed on Default

Hawaii · written against CS-L(MVR)44 (01/2026), issued under City and County of Honolulu Department of Customer Services, Division of Motor Vehicles, filed by the legal owner with the legal ownership card

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This is not your form and you should not be handed it, but it is the only lien document any Hawaii county publishes, so people looking for a release find it and assume it is the one. It is filed by the legal owner - the lender - after taking a vehicle back on default, and its instruction line says so before anything else: to be filed with legal ownership card. Its questions are about the default rather than the sale, asking the kind of lien, the date of sale or lease, the nature of the default and how long it has existed. If your lender has a lien on your certificate and you are selling normally, what you need is an endorsement in Section B on the back of the title, or a lien satisfaction letter - and neither of those is this.

This sheet is not the form. Download the blank CS-L(MVR)44 from the City and County of Honolulu Division of Motor Vehicle, Licensing and Permits at **https://www4.honolulu.gov/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-325995/hi-mvr44.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	LENDER	**Date, license number and description**	The identity block: the date of the application, the plate the vehicle carried, the make and type, and the vehicle identification number. **Watch out:** A seller reading this far has already gone wrong. If you still own the car, close this form and look at Section B on the back of your certificate instead.
2	LENDER	**Registered owner**	The person the county has on record as the registered owner - the borrower whose default is being asserted. **Watch out:** This is the one field that names the seller, and it names them as the subject of the application rather than as its author.
3	LENDER	**Kind of lien**	The instrument the legal owner is enforcing. It separates a finance agreement from a storage or repair lien, which reach a vehicle by a different route. **Watch out:** There is no tick list. The lender writes the instrument, and the county reads it against the bill of sale in the legal owner's name that must be presented with it.
4	LENDER	**Date of sale or lease**	When the defaulted agreement began, not when it was breached. **Watch out:** It is easy to read this as the date of the repossession sale. It is not - the next two questions cover the default itself.
5	LENDER	**State nature of default**	What the borrower failed to do. One ruled line, and the substance of the whole application. **Watch out:** The county is deciding whether to re-register a vehicle out of one person's name and into another's without that person's signature. A vague answer is not enough for that.
6	LENDER	**How long has default existed**	A duration. Together with the previous line it is the evidence that the lien matured before the vehicle was taken. **Watch out:** The answer here and the date of sale or lease have to be consistent with each other and with the contract.
7	LENDER	**Remarks**	A deep panel for anything else - the location of the vehicle, the repossession agent, the state of the title. **Watch out:** A lender using this panel to explain a missing certificate is telling the county something the boxes never asked, which is exactly what it is for.
8	LENDER	**Signature of legal owner**	One rule at the foot, signed by the lender. There is no signature line for the registered owner anywhere on the sheet. **Watch out:** That absence is the point. If a document about your car has no place for your signature, it is not a document you are meant to be completing.

What gets this one rejected

- A private seller filing it because a lender is printed on their title. The lien on an ordinary certificate is released in Section B by the lienholder, or by a lien satisfaction letter, and nothing on this sheet does that job.
- Filing it without the legal ownership card the instruction line names.
- Leaving the default questions vague. The nature of the default and how long it has existed are the substance of the application - a form that answers neither is a form that describes no default.
- Using it where a lienholder simply wants to be recorded on a new title. That is Section E on the back of the certificate, which the counties call the application for transfer by new lienholder.
- Expecting it to work as a notice of transfer. Honolulu's notice of transfer is for registered owner transfers only and explicitly not for lienholder transfers, and this application is not a substitute for either.

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

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES • DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES
P.O. Box 30330, Honolulu, HI 96820-0330

APPLICATION FOR RE-REGISTRATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE REPOSSESSED ON DEFAULT

(TO BE FILED WITH LEGAL OWNERSHIP CARD)

Bill of Sale in name of Legal Owner and/or below mentioned document must also be presented.

1 Date 08/14/2026

License Number JWP 640

Make Kia Type 4DSD

Vehicle ID Number 3KPF24AD6KE372918

2 Registered Owner Corwin B. Lakalaka

Kind of Lien Retail installment contract 3

4 Date of sale of lease 04/09/2023

5 State nature of default Payments unpaid since March 2026

How long has default existed? Five months 6

Remarks

7 Vehicle recovered 07/28/2026. Certificate of title held by the legal owner. Bill of sale in the name of the legal owner attached.

We hereby certify that the above statement is true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

Signed Kahoa Point Credit Union 8
LEGAL OWNER