

**VSD 773 — Beneficiary Affidavit: a filled-in example.** Amber is what you write; grey is a block somebody else completes. The line-by-line notes follow. [Back to the walkthrough](#)



# Secretary of State

## Beneficiary Affidavit

This space for use by  
Secretary of State.

Secretary of State  
Vehicle Services Department  
Titles Division  
501 S. Second St.  
Springfield, IL 62756  
217-785-3000  
ilsos

This form allows a vehicle owner to change,  
add or remove a beneficiary on the title.

The vehicle must be solely owned and not a business. Only one name may be listed on the Certificate of Title as the beneficiary. **A beneficiary cannot be added to the title when there is a lienholder; lessor or ownership is designated as "joint tenancy."** The beneficiary does not have interest or control of the vehicle. If a lienholder or lessor is added to the title later, the beneficiary will be removed from the title.

The beneficiary's name, address and county will be printed on the face of the Illinois title on the right-hand side, below the legend(s) area with the heading **BENEFICIARY INFORMATION**.

To transfer the ownership to the beneficiary, the beneficiary must submit the title (if available), applicable title fee, certified death certificate of the vehicle's legal owner, and the appropriate tax form and check payable to Illinois Department of Revenue, if applicable.

**Upon the death of the sole owner of the vehicle and the beneficiary has been established on a Certificate of Title, the beneficiary may not be changed or revoked by a will, any other instrument, or a change in circumstances, or otherwise be changed or revoked, except by a court of law.**

1 Please select one: ☒ Adding Beneficiary ☐ Removing Beneficiary ☐ Changing Beneficiary

Please Print or Type:

Full Legal Name of Beneficiary: Roland K. Petrakis

3 Mailing Address: 1130 S. Ridgeland Ave

City: Oak Park State: IL ZIP Code: 60304

Driver's License or ID Card Number: P362-4180-7715

4 Signature: Roland Petrakis Date: 02/06/2024

Vehicle Identification Number:

5 5 J 6 R M 4 H 5 X E L 0 6 8 2 1 3

Year: 2014 Make: Honda Model: CR-V Body Type: Utility

I hereby release, discharge and agree to hold harmless the Illinois Secretary of State of and from any and all liability to anyone whomsoever which may arise by reason of any contest of the validity of the beneficiary named herein, or the validity of the beneficiary in the manner prescribed in Public Act 095-0784 (625 ILCS 5/3-104).

Printed Full Legal Name of Owner: Dorothea M. Petrakis

Illinois Driver's License or ID Card Number: P362-9074-1188

Signature: Dorothea Petrakis Date: 02/06/2024

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of February 20 24.

Notary Public Signature Adaeze Nwankwo Date 02/06/2024

# How to fill out VSD 773 — Beneficiary Affidavit

Illinois · written against VSD 773 (VSD 773.4, February 2026), issued under 625 ILCS 5/3-104, Public Act 095-0784

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[/forms/illinois/vsd-773-beneficiary-affidavit/](#)

The form that prevents all of the above. It puts a transfer-on-death beneficiary on the face of an Illinois title while the owner is alive, so the car never enters an estate at all. It also removes or changes one, which is the half people forget exists.

**This sheet is not the form.** Download the blank VSD 773 from the Illinois Secretary of State at [https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf\\_publications/vsd773.pdf](https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/vsd773.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   | <b>Adding, Removing or Changing</b>                 | Three boxes across the top of the form. <b>Watch out:</b> Removing is a real option and it is on the same sheet. If a relationship has changed, a new form is the only thing that changes the title.                                                                                     |
| 2 | YOU   | <b>Full Legal Name of Beneficiary</b>               | One name. <b>Watch out:</b> Legal name. If it does not match the beneficiary's own documents later, the Secretary of State sends them to item 6 of VSD 393 to prove the two names are the same person - so get it right now.                                                             |
| 3 | YOU   | <b>The beneficiary's address and licence number</b> | Mailing address, city, state, ZIP, and a driver's licence or ID card number. <b>Watch out:</b> The county is printed on the finished title alongside the name, so the address is doing more work than a contact detail.                                                                  |
| 4 | BUYER | <b>The beneficiary signs</b>                        | Signature and date, in the upper half of the form. <b>Watch out:</b> This is the only Illinois form here where the person who benefits signs before the person who owns the car does. They have to actually be there.                                                                    |
| 5 | YOU   | <b>The VIN comb</b>                                 | A row of printed boxes, one character each. <b>Watch out:</b> One character per box, starting at the left. This is the field most likely to be filled in as running text, and a VIN that spills its own boxes is a returned form.                                                        |
| 6 | YOU   | <b>Year, Make, Model, Body Type</b>                 | Four boxes across one row under the VIN. <b>Watch out:</b> Off the title, not off the car. The affidavit is being matched to a record.                                                                                                                                                   |
| 7 | YOU   | <b>The owner signs last</b>                         | Printed full legal name of owner, signature and date. <b>Watch out:</b> Above it is a release and hold-harmless in favour of the Secretary of State against any contest of the validity of the beneficiary named. That is what you are signing, and it is the price of skipping probate. |

### What gets this one rejected

- A jointly owned vehicle. The form's first sentence is that the vehicle must be solely owned and not a business.
- A vehicle with a lienholder or a lessor. A beneficiary cannot be added where either exists, and if one is added later the beneficiary is removed from the title.
- Two beneficiaries. Only one name may be listed.
- Expecting the beneficiary to be able to do anything before you die. The form says the beneficiary does not have interest or control of the vehicle.
- Expecting a will to override it afterwards. On the death of the sole owner the beneficiary may not be changed or revoked by a will, any other instrument, or a change in circumstances - except by a court of law.

☒ Amber is what you write   ☐ Grey is a block somebody else completes   The filled-in example is at the start of this sheet.

Read off VSD 773 (VSD 773.4, February 2026) and the Illinois Secretary of State'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