



APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY- DISPOSAL OF A VEHICLE

State Form 55018 (R7 / 4-26)

INDIANA BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES

BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES

100 North Senate Avenue

Room N411

Indianapolis, IN 46204

The legal authority for this form is IC 9-22-5-3.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Complete in blue or black ink or print form.
2. Please indicate your preferred method of delivery by checking the box for "Email" or "USPS Mail" in Section 1.
3. The completed application, supporting documentation, and the \$4.00 application fee must be mailed to the address printed in the top-right hand corner of this form.

SECTION 1A – APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Applicant(s) (first, middle, last, or company name)

Osterhaus, Wilhelmina R.

Mailing Address (number and street)

2216 Kinser Pike

City

Bloomington

State

IN

ZIP Code

47404

Telephone Number (required)

(812) 555-0176

E-mail: w.osterhaus@example.com

SECTION 1B – SALVAGE RECYCLER INFORMATION (if applying on behalf of the applicant in section 1A)

Name of Automotive Salvage Recycler (company name)

Mailing Address (number and street)

City

State

ZIP Code

Dealer Number

Telephone Number (required)

E-mail:

Preferred Method of Delivery:

☐ USPS Mail

☒ E-Mail

SECTION 2 - VEHICLE INFORMATION

Vehicle Identification Number: ☐ No Vehicle Identification Number (If no VIN, Physical Inspection of a Vehicle or Watercraft – State Form 39530 must be completed by a police officer.)

1	B	3	E	S	2	6	C	3	3	D	1	2	4	5	9	6
Vehicle Year			Vehicle Make			Vehicle Model					Vehicle Type		Vehicle Color			
2003			Dodge			Neon					Pass		Green			

Reason for Request:

☐ Abandoned Vehicle

☒ Certificate of Title is faulty, lost or destroyed.

Include a concise statement regarding the reason a certificate of title is unavailable, explain how the vehicle came into your possession (if applicable), and provide the reasons for disposal of the vehicle. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

The certificate of title was destroyed in a house fire in March 2019. The car has stood on my own property since I bought it new, has not run for six years, and a licensed recycler is taking it for scrap.

I swear or affirm under the penalties for perjury that the information I have entered on this form is true and correct and that no material fact has been withheld. I understand that making a false statement may constitute the crime of perjury.

Signature of Applicant

Wilhelmina R. Osterhaus

Printed Name

Wilhelmina R. Osterhaus

Date Signed (mm/dd/yyyy)

06/11/2026

SECTION 3 – BMV USE ONLY

The applicant is approved to sell this vehicle to a licensed automotive salvage recycler for scrap metal. The licensed automotive salvage recycler may accept this Certificate of Authority in place of a certificate of title to the vehicle.

Designee of Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles Commissioner

Printed Name

Date Approved (mm/dd/yyyy)

SECTION 4 – AUTOMOTIVE SALVAGE RECYCLER USE ONLY

After destroying or dismantling the vehicle, complete the section below and mail this form to:

BMV Document Management

100 N. Senate Ave., Rm. 412

Indianapolis, IN 46204

*After delivery of this Certificate to the BMV, a certificate of title will not be issued for the motor vehicle identified above.

I hereby certify that this vehicle was destroyed or dismantled and should be recorded as 'JUNK' in BMV records. I swear or affirm under the penalties for perjury that this statement is correct. I understand making a false statement may constitute the crime of perjury.

Name of Company

Dealer Number

Street Address (number and street)

City

State

ZIP Code

Signature of Representative

Printed Name

Date Signed (mm/dd/yyyy)

How to fill out State Form 55018 — Application for Certificate of Authority - Disposal of a Vehicle

Indiana · written against State Form 55018 (R7 / 4-26), issued under IC 9-22-5-3

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[/forms/indiana/state-form-55018-certificate-of-authority-disposal-of-a-vehicle/](https://forms.indiana.gov/state-form-55018-certificate-of-authority-disposal-of-a-vehicle/)

The end of the road, formally. Where a certificate of title is faulty, lost or destroyed, or where an abandoned vehicle has ended up in your possession, this is how Indiana authorises you to sell, give away or scrap it without ever obtaining a title. The approved certificate is what the salvage recycler needs to see before they will take the car, and the application costs \$4.00.

This sheet is not the form. Download the blank State Form 55018 from the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles at <https://forms.in.gov/Download.aspx?id=10556&f=/in-sf55018.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	Section 1A, and the telephone number	Name, mailing address, telephone number and e-mail. Watch out: The telephone number is marked required, which on this form is not boilerplate - the BMV rings applicants about certificate of authority applications more often than about anything else in the set.
2	YOU	Decide who is applying	Section 1B is for a salvage recycler applying on behalf of the applicant in section 1A. Watch out: If a yard has offered to handle it, they fill in 1B with their own Dealer Number. If you are doing it yourself, leave the whole section empty.
3	YOU	Preferred Method of Delivery	One tick, USPS Mail or E-Mail. Watch out: E-mail is faster and the BMV publishes separate guidance on submitting these electronically. It also means the recycler can be sent a copy the moment it arrives.
4	YOU	Section 2, the vehicle	Identification number - or the No Vehicle Identification Number tick beside it - then Year, Make, Model, Type and Color. Watch out: If you tick the no-number box, a police inspection has to come with the application. The condition is printed inside the box itself.
5	YOU	Reason for Request	Abandoned Vehicle, or Certificate of Title is faulty, lost or destroyed. Watch out: These are genuinely different claims. Abandoned means somebody else's vehicle left with you; faulty or lost means your own vehicle and a document problem.
6	YOU	Write the statement	Why no title is available, how the vehicle came into your possession if that applies, and why it is being disposed of. Watch out: Attach additional sheets if necessary is on the form for a reason. This is the only place you get to make your case, and a full page is not too much.
7	YOU	Sign, and post it with the fee	Signature of Representative, printed name and date, then the packet and the \$4.00 fee to the Indianapolis address at the top right. Watch out: The affirmation on this one goes further than most: it adds that no material fact has been withheld. Leaving out an inconvenient part of how the car came to you is exactly what that phrase covers.

What gets this one rejected

- A vehicle you intend to sell to a private buyer. This authorises disposal - selling, giving away, or scrapping - not a transfer of title to somebody who wants to drive it.
- A missing telephone number. It is marked required on the form, in both section 1A and section 1B.
- No explanation. The statement area is where the application is decided, and a one-line answer is not a concise statement regarding the reason a certificate of title is unavailable.
- A blank identification number with the No Vehicle Identification Number box unticked. If there is no number, the tick is the answer - and a Physical Inspection of a Vehicle or Watercraft completed by a police officer has to come with it.
- Sending it to a branch. Instruction 3 says the completed application, supporting documentation and the \$4.00 application fee must be mailed to the address printed at the top right.
- Ticking neither reason. Abandoned and faulty-or-lost are different applications with different evidence behind them.

☐ 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 State Form 55018 (R7 / 4-26) and the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles's own pages, current as of 2026-08-23. Plain-language help with form, not legal advice — where this and the agency differ, the agency governs.

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