

How to fill out 78-013 — Affidavit of Ownership of Motor Vehicle

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Mississippi · written against 78-013 (Rev 08/21), issued under the possessor of the vehicle, sworn before a notary, /forms/mississippi/78-013-affidavit-of-ownership/ with the bill of sale attached

The sworn half of a bonded title - for the person who bought a vehicle and never got a certificate, or cannot get one from the previous owner or dealership. You swear you are the legal owner by virtue of the attached bill of sale, name who the vehicle came from with a reachable telephone number, explain in your own words why you cannot surrender the current certificate, and certify the mileage. With the surety bond and the bill of sale, it is the application file for a title built on evidence instead of paper.

This sheet is not the form. Download the blank 78-013 from the Mississippi Department of Revenue, Motor Vehicle Services at https://www.dor.ms.gov/sites/default/files/tax-forms/motor-vehicle/78013188%2520Affidavit%2520of%2520Ownership_0.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	BUYER	County, name, address, oath	The county where you are swearing, then your name and full address into the deposition's opening. Watch out: The county is the notary's venue, not the vehicle's - swear it where you actually stand.
2	BUYER	VIN, year, make	The vehicle in three blanks. Watch out: Read the VIN off the vehicle itself - on a bonded application the plate on the dash is the one identity nobody is vouching for yet, and the DPS inspection will read it off the metal too.
3	BUYER	The seller, findable	Who the vehicle came from, their address, the required telephone number, and the state where it was last registered. Watch out: An estate, a defunct lot, a private name - give what exists and make the explanation lines carry the rest. The examiner's first question is always whether the real owner can be asked.
4	BUYER	Your own words, doing real work	Why the current certificate cannot be surrendered, in the space provided. Watch out: Dates, names, attempts made. This paragraph is what the bond underwriter and the examiner both price the risk on.
5	BUYER	The tag question and the mileage	Whether a tag was on the vehicle and its state and number if so, then the odometer certification with its two exception statements. Watch out: The tag number is a gift to your application - it lets the Department walk the registration record backwards to the last titled owner.
6	BUYER	Inspection if it is young, notary regardless	Ten model years or less: DPS substation first, MVCT-59 in hand. Then print, sign and swear before the notary. Watch out: Sequence matters - inspection before application, oath before filing, and the bond's own 30-day filing window ticking behind all of it.

What gets this one rejected

- No bill of sale attached. The whole oath hangs on by virtue of the attached bill of sale - without it you are swearing to ownership evidenced by nothing.
- An unreachable seller with no explanation. The telephone line is printed (Required); a disconnected number with no account of why invites the examiner to stop reading.
- A newer vehicle with no MVCT-59. Ten model years or less means a DPS substation inspection first, and the officer's form travels with the application.
- A thin story on the ruled lines. Never received a title from the previous owner is a start; when, from whom, and what you did about it is what a sworn statement of this kind is for.
- Forgetting this is half a file. The FAQ's bonded-title recipe is three items - surety bond for one and a half times the average trade-in value, completed affidavit of ownership, bill of sale - and an affidavit alone titles nothing.

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

Read off 78-013 (Rev 08/21) and the Mississippi Department of Revenue, Motor Vehicle Services'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.

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Form 78-013-18-8-1-000 (Rev. 08/21)

Reset Form

Print Form

Mississippi AFFIDAVIT OF OWNERSHIP OF MOTOR VEHICLE

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, COUNTY OF Rankin

Before me the undersigned has this day appeared Harmon T. Leflore, of 483 Shiloh Creek Rd
Name Street Address
Florence, MS 39073 who after being duly sworn, deposes and states that they are the legal
City State Zip

owner by virtue of the attached bill of sale of the following described vehicle.

VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (VIN): 3GCPKSE74DG318294 YEAR: 2013 MAKE: Chevrolet

And states that said vehicle was acquired from Estate of Rayfield O. Grantham, whose address
(Enter Name of Person You Acquired Vehicle From; Attach Bill of Sale)
is 1276 Simpson Hwy 49 City Magee State Mississippi Zip 39111

Telephone number at which the seller may be reached: (601) 555-0134. In what state was the herein described
(Required)
vehicle last registered? Mississippi
(Required)

In your own words, state the reason you are unable to surrender the current Certificate of Title of the vehicle.

The owner died in February 2026 and the certificate was never found. The estate sold the truck at auction on 8 August 2026 with a bill of sale, and the executor has searched the house and bank box without locating the title.

Was there a license tag on the vehicle when you acquired it? Yes If so, give state and tag number. MS RQV 483

Instructions

If the vehicle described herein is ten (10) model years or less, it must be taken to the nearest Mississippi Department of Public Safety substation for inspection and issuance of Form MVCT-59 by the inspecting officer prior to making application for certificate of title.

Federal law and State law requires that you state the mileage in connection with the transfer of ownership. Failure to complete or providing false statement may result in fines and/or imprisonment.

I, Harmon T. Leflore, state that the odometer now reads 141650 (NO TENTHS) miles and to the best of my knowledge that the actual mileage of the vehicle described herein, unless one of the following statements is checked:

- ☐ (1) I hereby certify to the best of my knowledge the odometer reading reflects the amount of mileage in excess of its mechanical limits.
☐ (2) I hereby certify that the odometer reading is NOT the actual mileage. WARNING – ODOMETER DISCREPANCY

Harmon T. Leflore

(Printed Name of Buyer)

(Signature)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE THIS 14th day of August, 20 26.

(Notary Public)