

How to fill out TDMV 20A — Release of Lien or Other Encumbrances

One short page signed by the lender, not by you, releasing a security interest that is recorded against the vehicle. It matters to a seller more than its length suggests: the Division's own instruction on the duplicate title application is that even though the lien may have been previously satisfied, if the original title named a lienholder, a lien release is needed - so a loan you finished paying years ago still has to be signed off in writing before the paperwork will move.

This sheet is not the form. Download the blank TDMV 20A from the New Hampshire Division of Motor Vehicles at <https://www.dmv.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt416/files/inline-documents/tdmv20a.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	Check the front of the certificate first	Look for a lienholder named on the face of the title. If there is one, this form or a bank letter is required whatever the state of the loan. Watch out: This is worth doing the day you decide to sell. A lien that was satisfied in 2019 and never released still stops the transfer in 2026.
2	LENDER	Vehicle description	Make, year, style and the identification number across the comb. Watch out: Send the lender a photograph of the front of the certificate so the description they write matches the record the Bureau holds.
3	LENDER	Owned by, and address	Your name and address as the registered owner. Watch out: As printed on the certificate. If your name has changed since the title was issued, that is a separate job and there is a separate form for it.
4	LENDER	Lienholder's name and address	Who is releasing the interest. Watch out: It has to be the entity named on the certificate. Where a lender has been bought out, the successor generally signs and adds a line saying so - ask them to, rather than hoping the counter will infer it.
5	LENDER	Signature of authorized lienholder agent	An original signature on the printed rule at the foot of the page. Watch out: There is no notary block on this form and none is needed. What is needed is ink.
6	YOU	Keep it with the certificate	The release goes to the town or city clerk with the assigned title and the title application. Watch out: Photograph it before you hand it over. It is one page, it is irreplaceable in practice, and it is the page most likely to be left on a kitchen table.

What gets this one rejected

- A release signed by the borrower. The signature line asks for an authorised lienholder agent, and the whole document is the lender's statement about its own interest.
- A photocopied or stamped signature. The Bureau's rule requires the original of every signature it asks for.
- A vehicle identification number that does not match the certificate character for character - it is combed for a reason.
- Nothing at all, on a vehicle whose certificate names a lienholder. The Division wants either this form or the lender's own letterhead saying the lien is released and signed.

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



Robert L. Quinn
Commissioner of Safety

State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

23 HAZEN DRIVE, CONCORD, NH 03305
Telephone: (603)227-4000 TDD Access Relay NH 7-1-1



John C. Marasco
Director of Motor Vehicles

RELEASE OF LIEN OR OTHER ENCUMBRANCES

THE UNDERSIGNED BEING HOLDER OF A LIEN, OR OTHER ENCUMBRANCES ON THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLE

MAKE OF VEHICLE: **Subaru** YR.: **2018** STYLE: **Sport Utility** VEHICLE I.D. NO.:

J	F	2	G	T	A	B	C	6	J	H	2	7	3	4	1	8
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OWNED BY: **Hollis J. Fecteau**

ADDRESS: **12 Rollins Court, Somersworth, NH 03878**

DOES HEREBY STATE THAT THE LIEN OR OTHER ENCUMBRANCE IS HEREBY RELEASED AND DISCHARGED.

LIENHOLDER'S NAME: **Mount Cabot Credit Union**

ADDRESS: **118 Bridge Street, Lancaster, NH 03584**

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED LIENHOLDER AGENT: _____