

How to fill out VTR-71-2 — Application for Authority to Dispose of a Motor Vehicle to a Demolisher

Texas · written against VTR-71-2 (Rev 11/20), issued under Texas Transportation Code 683.055 and 501.099

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Gets a car legally destroyed when you cannot produce a title for it. Texas issues a Certificate of Authority on the back of this, and a demolisher will take the vehicle on that certificate alone. It is the honest answer to the old truck behind the house that nobody can find paperwork for.

This sheet is not the form. Download the blank VTR-71-2 from the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles at https://www.txdmv.gov/sites/default/files/form_files/VTR-71-2.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	Vehicle information	VIN, year, make, body style, model, and the plate if the car still carries one. Watch out: If the VIN plate is unreadable, stop here - this route needs a VIN and there is a separate process for assigning one.
2	YOU	Odometer disclosure	The reading with no tenths, and one of the three ticks if the reading is not the actual mileage. Watch out: Exempt is about the model year, not the condition. A car too new to be exempt still needs an honest reading even on its way to the crusher.
3	YOU	Where the vehicle is	The physical location of the car, which is not necessarily your mailing address. Watch out: Be specific. This is what the department and the demolisher use to find it.
4	YOU	Why you can apply	One of three ticks: recorded owner or transferred to you, abandoned and in your possession, or abandoned and on your property. Watch out: The two abandoned routes trigger the 20-day notice to any owner and lienholder. The owner route does not, and is much faster.
5	YOU	Sign and date	Signature, printed name and date, with the certification that the vehicle goes to a demolisher for destruction only. Watch out: Read the certification first. It is where you agree the car can never come back.

What gets this one rejected

- No fee, or the wrong kind. Two dollars, by check or money order payable to the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles. The form rules out credit and debit cards, temporary checks and cash, and says the fee is non-refundable.
- Ticking none of the three reasons. An application under this process must be for one of them, and only one applies to any given car.
- Not surrendering a Texas title you still hold. If the car was last titled in Texas and the title is not lost or destroyed, it goes in - unless the department can already verify you as the owner in its own system.
- Applying as somebody who is not the owner without evidence. If you are not the recorded owner you have to show the vehicle was transferred to you - a title, a manufacturer's certificate of origin, a registration receipt on a non-titled vehicle, or a law enforcement auction sales receipt.
- Expecting the car back afterwards. The certification is explicit: this vehicle cannot be repaired, rebuilt, reconstructed, made operable, or retitled, and may only go to a demolisher for permanent destruction.

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

Read off VTR-71-2 (Rev 11/20) and the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles's own pages, current as of 2026-08-23. Plain-language help with a form, sellmycarhub.com not legal advice — where this and the agency differ, the agency governs.



Application for Authority to Dispose of a Motor Vehicle to a Demolisher

Information

This application can only be used if the motor vehicle is owned by the applicant, has been transferred to the applicant, is abandoned and in the possession of the applicant, or located on property owned by the applicant (see Page 2 for additional information).

Mail this completed application, required documentation (if any), and \$2.00 application fee in the form of a check or money order payable to the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles. Credit/debit cards, temporary checks, and cash are not accepted. **Fees are non-refundable.**

Mail to: Texas Department of Motor Vehicles
Vehicle Titles and Registration Division
ATTN: Title Control Systems
Austin, Texas 78779-0001

Vehicle Information

Vehicle Identification Number	Year	Make	Body Style	Model
1HGEM21902L071845	2002	Honda	4D	Civic
License Plate State and Number (if any)	Odometer Reading (no tenths)	The odometer reading is the actual mileage unless one of the following is checked:		
	214870	☐ Not Actual ☐ Exceeds Mechanical Limits ☒ Exempt		
Physical Location of the Vehicle				
1418 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78212 (rear driveway, on applicant property)				

Applicant Information

First Name (or Entity Name)	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix (if any)
Dale	W.	Fontenot	
Address		City	State Zip
1418 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78212			

Statement of Facts for Application

An application under this process must be for one of the following reasons. Mark the applicable reason, and provide a statement of facts, if applicable:

- ☒ The applicant listed is the recorded owner of the motor vehicle or has been transferred ownership.
- ☐ The vehicle is an abandoned motor vehicle (see Page 2) and in the possession of the applicant.
- ☐ The vehicle is an abandoned motor vehicle (see Page 2) and located on property owned by the applicant.

Certification – State law makes falsifying information a third degree felony

I, the applicant listed above, certify the facts contained herein are true, and no material fact has been withheld. I am applying for authority to dispose of the motor vehicle described above to a demolisher for demolition, wrecking, or dismantling only. I have the legal right to apply for the authority to demolish this vehicle; and understand this vehicle cannot be repaired, rebuilt, reconstructed, made operable, or retitled and may only dispose of the vehicle to a demolisher for permanent destruction.

Dale W. Fontenot	Dale W. Fontenot	07/06/2026
Signature of Applicant	Printed Name (Same as Signature)	Date