



Affidavit of Loss/Release of Interest

When completed, mail or take this to any vehicle licensing office. **If mailing, you must have your signature notarized.**

1 License plate/Registration number BKT4192		Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) or Vessel Hull Identification Number (HIN) 2T3RFREV5FW184726	
Model year 2015	Make Toyota	Model RAV4	Body style 4 door

Affidavit of loss—Signature must be notarized or certified

Check all that apply

I do not have the following:

☒ Title ☐ Registration ☐ Tab ☐ Decal ☐ Plates ☐ Metal tag

It is not in my possession because it was:

☐ Destroyed ☐ Illegible ☒ Lost ☐ Stolen ☐ Defaced and can no longer be used

*I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.
If signing for a business, I have full authority to do so.*

Rosalind T. Vandermeer

TYPE or PRINT Name

Position and company name, if signing for a business

(509) 555-0164 VANDERT418QK

(Area code) Phone number Washington driver license number

r.vandermeer@example.com

Email

08/18/2026, Spokane County

Date and place (city or county) signed

X Rosalind Vandermeer

Signature

TYPE or PRINT Name

Position and company name, if signing for a business

(Area code) Phone number Washington driver license number

Email

Date and place (city or county) signed

X

Signature

Release of interest—Signature must be notarized or certified

What are you releasing (check all that apply)

I am releasing interest in the following for the vehicle or vessel described above.

☒ Ownership ☐ Gross weight license ☐ Personalized plate

*I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.
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Email

Date and place (city or county) signed

X

Signature

Notarization / Certification—You don't need your signature notarized if you sign in front of a WA vehicle licensing agent, who can certify your signature.

State of _____ County of _____

Signed or attested before me on _____ by _____
Name of person(s) signing this document

(Seal or stamp)

Notary/Agent/Subagent signature

Notary printed or stamped name

Title _____ and _____
Dealer or county/office number or notary expiration date

How to fill out 420-040 — Affidavit of Loss/Release of Interest

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Washington · written against 420-040 (R/3/18), issued under RCW 46.12.580 and WAC 308-56A- </forms/washington/420-040-affidavit-of-loss-release-of-interest/>
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Two forms printed on one sheet, and a seller may need either or both. The upper half swears that a document - the title, the registration, a tab, a decal, the plates or a metal tag - is gone. The lower half releases interest in the vehicle without using the certificate. Both halves are signed under penalty of perjury and both must be notarised or certified, which is the difference between this and signing the certificate itself.

This sheet is not the form. Download the blank 420-040 from the Washington State Department of Licensing at <https://dol.wa.gov/sites/default/files/forms/420040.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	The vehicle band	Plate or registration number, identification number, model year, make, model and body style. Watch out: One band serves both halves of the sheet. Fill it in once and it covers whichever half or halves you go on to complete.
2	YOU	What you do not have	Six ticks: title, registration, tab, decal, plates, metal tag. Check all that apply. Watch out: Tick everything that is genuinely missing. Coming back a fortnight later because the tabs went with the title is a second notarised affidavit and a second fee.
3	YOU	Why you do not have it	Destroyed, illegible, lost, stolen, or defaced and can no longer be used. Watch out: Stolen is a different answer from lost and the department reads it differently - a stolen certificate is a fraud risk, and saying so is what puts a flag on the record.
4	YOU	Your details, printed	Name, position and company if signing for a business, telephone, Washington driver licence number and email. Watch out: The name has to match the certificate the department holds. If you have married or changed name since, that needs sorting out first or the affidavit swears about somebody else's document.
5	YOU	Date, place, and the signature you must not make yet	The date, the city or county, and the signature line - which prints its own instruction to sign before a notary or vehicle licensing agent. Watch out: Signing at home and posting it is the single commonest way this form comes back. The department will accept a posted form only if the signature on it was notarised.
6	YOU	The release of interest half	Three ticks - ownership, gross weight licence, personalised plate - then the same name and signature structure again. Watch out: Ownership is the tick that matters in a sale. The other two exist for a seller keeping a personalised plate or dropping a weight endorsement.
7	YOU	The notarisation block at the foot	One seal block at the very bottom of the sheet, carrying the place and the date, the names of everybody who signed in front of the witness, and the witness's signature, printed name, title and number. Watch out: One block covers both halves and everybody who signed in front of that person. A co-owner who was not there is not covered by it.

What gets this one rejected

- Posting it unwitnessed. The form's first line is unambiguous: when completed, mail or take this to any vehicle licensing office, and if mailing, you must have your signature notarized.
- One signature where the certificate names two registered owners. Replacing a lost title needs all of them.
- Ticking nothing in the second row. Saying what is missing without saying why does not make an affidavit.
- Printing it on coloured paper. The department's instruction for a replacement title is to print the form on white paper.
- Using it to correct a name or a mileage figure. That is a different form - this one swears a document is gone or releases an interest, and nothing else.
- Assuming it doubles as a Report of Sale. Releasing interest and telling the department you sold the vehicle are two separate filings.

☐ 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 420-040 (R/3/18) and the Washington State Department of Licensing'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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