

SALVAGE VEHICLES

Definition and Requirements found in Section 32-8-87, Code of Alabama 1975.

When the frame or engine is removed from a motor vehicle and not immediately replaced by another frame or engine, or when an insurance company has paid money or made other monetary settlement as compensation for a total loss of any motor vehicle, the motor vehicle shall be considered salvage.

A total loss occurs when an insurance company or any other person pays or makes other monetary settlement to a person when a vehicle is damaged and the damage to the vehicle is greater than or equal to 75 percent of the fair retail value of the vehicle prior to damage.

Retail value is required to be based upon a current edition of a nationally recognized compilation of retail values, including automated data bases.

SALVAGE VEHICLE INSPECTION

The department may issue a certificate of title to any motor vehicle for which a salvage certificate has been issued by this or any other state, and the vehicle has, in this state, been completely restored to its operation condition which existed prior to the event which caused the salvage certificate of title to issue, provided that all requirements of Code of Alabama 1975, 32-8-87, have been met.

No certificate of title shall be issued for any motor vehicle for which a "junk" certificate has been issued or for a vehicle which is sold "for parts only."

Each application for inspection of a salvage vehicle which has been so restored shall be accompanied by all the following:

The outstanding salvage certificate or out-of-state title previously issued for the salvage vehicle.

Notarized bills of sale evidencing acquisition of all major component parts.

Evidence that the owner is a licensed motor vehicle rebuilder as defined in Section 40-12-390, Code of Alabama 1975.

An affidavit from the owner attesting that:

He/She has rebuilt the vehicle or supervised its rebuilders, and that the vehicle has been restored to the operation condition which existed prior to the event which caused the salvage certificate to be issued. This disclosure shall include a list of repairs made to the vehicle.

He/She personally inspected the completed vehicle, and it complies with all safety requirements set forth by the State of Alabama and any regulations promulgated thereunder.

The Owner's affidavit shall also attest to the fact that:

The identification numbers of the restored vehicle and its parts have not, to the knowledge of the owner, been removed, destroyed, falsified, altered, or defaced.

That the salvage certificate document or out-of-state title certificate attached to the application has not to the knowledge of the owner been forged, falsified, altered, or counterfeited.

That all information contained on the application and its attachments is true and correct to the knowledge of the owner.

An application fee for each inspection in the amount of \$75.00.

The title fee of \$15.00 is also applicable.

The inspection and certification shall include an examination of the vehicle and its parts to determine that the identification numbers of the vehicle or its parts have not been removed, falsified, altered, defaced, destroyed, or tampered with; that the vehicle information contained in the application for certificate of title and supporting documents is true and correct; and that there are no indications that the vehicle or any of its parts are stolen. The certification shall not attest to the roadworthiness or safety condition of the vehicle.

REBUILT SALVAGE VEHICLES

A salvage vehicle which has been restored in this state to its operation condition which existed prior to the event which caused the salvage certificate of title to issue shall, upon passing inspection, be issued a certificate of title containing the legend "rebuilt"

Each salvage vehicle restored or rebuilt in this state which is required to be inspected by the department and for which a rebuilt certificate of title may be issued shall be issued a decal, plate, or other emblem as prescribed by the department to reflect that the vehicle is rebuilt. The decal, plate, or other emblem shall be attached to the vehicle in a place and in a manner prescribed by the department.

Each person who sells, exchanges, delivers, or otherwise transfers any interest in any vehicle for which a title bearing the designation "salvage" or "rebuilt" has been issued shall disclose in writing the existence of this title to the prospective purchaser, recipient in exchange, recipient by donation, or recipient by other act of transfer.

The disclosure, which shall be made at the time of or prior to the completion of the sale, exchange, donation, or other act of transfer, shall contain the following information in no smaller than 10-point type” “This vehicle’s title contains the designation ‘salvage’ or ‘rebuilt’.