



Ohio Revised Code

Section 4513.63 Photograph and record of information as to abandoned junk vehicles.

Effective: October 24, 2024

Legislation: Senate Bill 94

As used in this section, "abandoned junk motor vehicle" means any motor vehicle meeting all of the following requirements:

(1) Left on private property for forty-eight hours or longer without the permission of the person having the right to the possession of the property, on a public street or other property open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking, or upon or within the right-of-way of any road or highway, for forty-eight hours or longer;

(2) Three years old, or older;

(3) Extensively damaged, such damage including but not limited to any of the following: missing wheels, tires, motor, or transmission;

(4) Apparently inoperable;

(5) Having a fair market value of one thousand five hundred dollars or less.

(B) The sheriff of a county or chief of a law enforcement agency of a municipal corporation, township, port authority, conservancy district, university campus police department, park district police force, or township or joint police district, within the sheriff's or chief's respective territorial jurisdiction, or a state highway patrol trooper, natural resources officer, or wildlife officer, upon notification to the sheriff, chief, or department of natural resources of such action, shall order any abandoned junk motor vehicle to be photographed by a law enforcement officer. The officer shall record the make of motor vehicle, the serial number when available, and shall also detail the damage or missing equipment to substantiate the value of one thousand five hundred dollars or less. The sheriff, chief, or department shall thereupon immediately dispose of the abandoned junk motor vehicle to a motor vehicle salvage dealer as defined in section 4738.01 of the Revised Code or a



scrap metal processing facility as defined in section 4737.05 of the Revised Code which is under contract to the county, township, port authority, conservancy district, university campus, park district, municipal corporation, or department, or to any other facility owned by or under contract with the county, township, port authority, conservancy district, university campus, park district, municipal corporation, or department for the destruction of such motor vehicles. The records and photograph relating to the abandoned junk motor vehicle shall be retained by the law enforcement agency or department ordering the disposition of such vehicle for a period of at least two years. The law enforcement agency or department shall execute in quadruplicate an affidavit, as prescribed by the registrar of motor vehicles, describing the motor vehicle and the manner in which it was disposed of, and that all requirements of this section have been complied with, and, within thirty days of disposing of the vehicle, shall sign and file the affidavit with the clerk of courts of the county in which the motor vehicle was abandoned. The clerk of courts shall retain the original of the affidavit for the clerk's files, shall furnish one copy thereof to the registrar, one copy to the motor vehicle salvage dealer or other facility handling the disposal of the vehicle, and one copy to the law enforcement agency or department ordering the disposal, who shall file such copy with the records and photograph relating to the disposal.

(C)(1) Except as provided in division (C)(2) of this section, any money arising from the disposal of an abandoned junk motor vehicle shall be deposited in the general fund of the county, township, port authority, conservancy district, university campus, park district, or the municipal corporation, as the case may be.

(2) Any money arising from the disposal of an abandoned junk motor vehicle by the department of natural resources shall be deposited as follows:

(a) To the wildlife fund created under section 1531.17 of the Revised Code if the abandoned junk motor vehicle was removed from property under the control or jurisdiction of the division of wildlife;

(b) To the state park fund created under section 1546.21 of the Revised Code if the abandoned junk motor vehicle was removed from property under the control or jurisdiction of the department of natural resources other than property under the control or jurisdiction of the division of wildlife.



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(D) Notwithstanding section 4513.61 of the Revised Code, any motor vehicle meeting the requirements of divisions (A)(3), (4), and (5) of this section which has remained unclaimed by the owner or lienholder for a period of ten days or longer following notification as provided in section 4513.61 of the Revised Code may be disposed of as provided in this section.