



Louisiana Department of Public Safety  
Office of Motor Vehicles  
**Policy 76.01 Certificate of Destruction**

**Section:** 4. Motor Vehicle Registration Requirements

**Effective Date:** 12/06/2005

**Revised Date:** 03/22/2019

**Authority:**

[R.S. 32:702 \(4\), \(13\), \(15\), \(16\)](#)

[R.S. 32:706.1](#)

[R.S. 32:707 \(E\)](#)

[R.S. 32:707.3](#)

To view Louisiana Statutes: <http://www.legis.state.la.us/>

**Definitions:**

- **Certificate of Destruction** - a type of title issued for a water-damaged vehicle, other than an antique vehicle or a vehicle in excess of twenty thousand pounds gross weight, whose power train, computer, or electrical system has been damaged by flooding as the result of a gubernatorial declared disaster or emergency and has been declared a “total loss”.

**Requirements:**

- An insurance company that acquires ownership of a vehicle **MUST** apply for a certificate of destruction within thirty days. A 60-day extension period may be granted upon approval by the Office of Motor Vehicles, not to exceed ninety days from the date of settlement.  
The following must be submitted:
  - Current Louisiana Certificate of Title properly assigned, if applicable.
  - A completed vehicle application form ([DPSMV1799](#)) for the certificate of destruction. The words “Certificate of Destruction” must be written or stamped on the application and on the face of the accompanying title.
  - A copy of the total loss settlement indicating the date of loss as well as the date of settlement.
  - Disclosure of Salvage/Reconstructed/Water Damaged/Hail Damaged Vehicle ([DPSMV1637](#))
  - Applicable title and handling fee

**Notes:**

- An insurance company may elect to apply for a Certificate of Destruction for a vehicle that has been damaged to the extent it is deemed a “total loss” even if not resulting from a gubernatorial declared disaster. If the insurance company elects to apply for a Certificate of Destruction in lieu of a salvage title, a statement indicating such must be added to the proof of loss documentation and submitted with the file.
- **A certificate of destruction will not be issued to off road vehicles, manufactured homes or trailers.**

**Related Policies:**

Section 4, Policy 2.03 [Completion Of Vehicle Application](#)

Section 4, Policy 20.05 [Disposal Of Junked Vehicles](#)

Section 4, Policy 42.00 [Vehicle Certificate Of Title Law \(Salvage Vehicles\)](#)

Section 4, Policy 42.02 [Out-Of-State Branded Titles](#)

Section 4, Policy 42.04 [Salvage Retention](#)

Section 4, Policy 76.00 [Water Damaged Vehicle](#)