

Vehicle Industry News

VIN 2024-08

Revised REG 138 Form

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Issue Date: March 29, 2024

New Information

The Notice of Transfer and Release of Liability (REG 138, Rev. 3/2024) form was revised to include Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) webpage addresses and a quick-response (QR) code. Other changes include updated verbiage throughout the form, addition of a privacy statement on collection of personal data, and removal of pictures.

NOTE: Continue to accept prior revisions of the REG 138 (Rev. 2/2012) until depleted.

Procedures

Continue to follow procedures outlined in *Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual* §11.115.

Background

Form changes were necessary to encourage customer use of DMV's Notice of Transfer and Release of Liability online service.

References

Vehicle Code §§4456, 5602, and 5900

Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual §11.115

Distribution

Notification of this memo (available at dmv.ca.gov under Vehicle Industry Services) was made via the California DMV Automated Email Alert System in March 2024 to:

- Dealers
- Registration Services

Contact

Direct questions related to this memo to DMV Customer Care at (916) 657-6560.

Attachment

Ensure your liability is released by following the instructions below.

This form must be completely filled out. Use CAPITAL LETTERS in black or blue ink.

DMV DOCUMENT IMAGING USE ONLY

NOTICE OF TRANSFER and RELEASE OF LIABILITY

Online filing is *FASTER* at dmv.ca.gov/nrl
or mail this completed form to the DMV

NEW OWNER'S LAST NAME (OR) COMPANY NAME				FIRST							
NEW OWNER'S ADDRESS						APT NUMBER		ODOMETER READING (NO TENTHS)			
CITY				STATE		ZIP CODE		DATE OF SALE, TRANSFER, OR LEASE RETURN MO. DAY YR.			
SELLER'S OR LESSEE'S LAST NAME (OR) COMPANY NAME				FIRST				SELLING PRICE (NO CENTS)			
SELLER'S OR LESSEE'S ADDRESS						APT NUMBER		WHOLE DOLLARS			
CITY				STATE		ZIP CODE		IF VEHICLE IS A GIFT, ENTER 0 FOR SELLING PRICE			
VEHICLE LICENSE OR CF NUMBER				MAKE OR BUILDER		YEAR MODEL		VEHICLE ID OR VESSEL HULL NUMBER			
								SELLER'S OR LESSEE'S SIGNATURE			
								X			

WARNING! You must provide accurate, legible information that includes vehicle/vessel description, your name/address, buyer's name/address, and date of sale/transfer/lease return or the information WILL NOT be updated or retained.

REG 138 (REV. 3/2024) WWW



NOTICE OF TRANSFER and RELEASE OF LIABILITY

Protect Yourself – Submit this form within FIVE days!

You must provide accurate, legible information or it will not be updated or retained. NO notice will be provided.

- You MUST include:
- Vehicle/Vessel Description
 - Date of Sale/Transfer/Lease Return
 - Odometer Reading
 - New Owner's Name & Address
 - Your Name & Address

SAVE TIME by filing **ONLINE** at dmv.ca.gov/nrl or scan the QR Code. (Print a receipt for your records.)

This form may also be mailed, but no notification will be sent confirming the DMV has received it.



Helpful Tips

- Pay careful attention to write the new owner's information in the new owner section and the seller's information in the seller's section.
- If you have or sell multiple vehicles at the same time, submit individual forms for each vehicle. Be sure the correct vehicle license plate, vehicle identification number (VIN), and owner is listed on each form.
- File this form within five days of the transaction taking place.
- Protect yourself by submitting this form. This is the best way to make sure the DMV receives your information.

If you are completing this form instead of filing online at dmv.ca.gov/nrl, detach and keep this part for your records and mail the top card to the DMV. Do not mail a copy of a bill of sale or any other documentation with this form.

(See Reverse for Additional Information)

REG 138 (REV. 3/2024) WWW



FIRST CLASS LETTER POSTAGE REQUIRED

From:

Three horizontal lines for address information.

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
NOTICE OF TRANSFER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY
P. O. BOX 942859
SACRAMENTO, CA 94259-0001
Barcode

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
P. O. BOX 942859
SACRAMENTO, CA 94259-0001

If you do not file this form online at dmv.ca.gov/nrl, complete and mail the top card to the DMV. Detach and keep this part for your records.

You are required by law to notify the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) within five days from the date you sell or dispose of a vehicle or vessel. This form must be provided to the DMV to report a vehicle/vessel sale or transfer. The filing of this form does not constitute application for transfer of ownership (title).

Before your name is removed from DMV records related to this vehicle/vessel, the NEW OWNER MUST APPLY FOR TRANSFER using the endorsed Certificate of Ownership (Title) received from you. The new owner must complete all transfer requirements.

When this form is properly completed and the information is recorded by the DMV, liability for parking and/or traffic violations and civil litigation resulting from the operation of the vehicle/vessel after the date of sale, transfer, or lease return, becomes the responsibility of the subsequent new owner(s).

You may want to verify the new owner's identification to ensure the new owner is providing you with accurate name information. Keep a copy of the completed form for your records because collection notices can be received months/years after the vehicle/vessel has been sold. Do not ignore any collection notice. Refer to California Vehicle Code §5602 for requirements about releasing liability and any liability disputes.

Form with fields: VEHICLE LICENSE OR CF NUMBER, MAKE OR BUILDER, YEAR MODEL, VEHICLE ID OR VESSEL HULL NUMBER, ODOMETER READING, DATE OF SALE, TRANSFER, OR LEASE RETURN, SELLING PRICE (IF VEHICLE IS GIFT, ENTER 0), NAME OF NEW OWNER, ADDRESS OF NEW OWNER

PRIVACY NOTICE ON COLLECTION: DMV collection of personal information is governed by: California Information Practices Act, Civil Code §1798 et seq; Government Code (GC) §11015.5; California Public Records Act GC §6250 et seq.; California Vehicle Code §1808; Driver's Privacy Protection Act (18 United States Code §§2721-2725). The information collected will not be shared unless required or allowed by law. Except where noted, submission is mandatory for each information item on this form. DMV uses the information to record vehicle/vessel ownership changes and release previous owner liability. Failure to provide mandatory information may result in DMV's inability to update vehicle record and disqualify your liability exemption. You have the right to review and request corrections/deletions of DMV maintained records containing your personal information. For privacy policy questions or requests contact us at: DMV Chief Privacy Officer, 2415 First Avenue, MS F127, Sacramento, CA 95818 or (916) 657-6340.