



**TECHNICAL ADVISORY**  
**DIVISION OF MOTORIST SERVICES**

<b>DATE: 06/07/22</b>	<b>Technical Advisory RSTL22-014</b>
<b>SUBJECT: All Motorized Vessels Must Meet Title and Registration Requirements</b>	

**Overview:**

All motorized vessels operating on Florida’s public waterways must be titled and registered. Chapter 328, Florida Statutes, designates that the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV) is responsible for issuing vessel registrations and titles. Applications for titles and registrations must be filed at a county tax collector or license plate agent office.

**Details:**

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) has advised the Department that motorized water vessels must be titled and registered. Therefore, it must have a FL number and a hull identification number (HIN).

The manufacturer should permanently affix the HIN number onto the vessel. However, if the vessel does not have a HIN, the distributor of the vessel should provide the HIN to the customer to meet Coast Guard standards. Additionally, the vessel must meet Coast Guard requirements (that are listed below) as to HIN format, HIN location, and the information displayed near the HIN.

**33 CFR Part 181.23, 33 FR Part 181.25, 33 FR Part 181.27, 33 CFR Part 181.29, and Section 328.07, Florida Statutes.**

To apply for an original title for a motorized vessel, the MCO is required per procedure TL-10. Transfers, duplicates, etc. are handled as described in current procedures.

Because of the shape of the vessel the FL number needs to be on each side of the forward half of the board with the decal affixed to the port (left) side within six inches of the FL number. See sections 328.48(4) and (5), Florida Statutes, for additional registration and decal information. Examples of motorized vessels attached but are not limited to those examples.

**Conclusion:**

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Field Support.

