

# **INFORMATION NOTICE**

# **DIVISION OF MOTORIST SERVICES**

Dave Kerner, Executive Director

DATE: 09/17/25

Information Notice (INFO)
INFO 25-017

SUBJECT: Storage Fees for Notice of Claim of Lien for Motor Vehicles and

Vessels

#### **Overview:**

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV) is providing further guidance on satisfying the good faith effort requirements found in section 713.78, Florida Statutes, for title transfers for towing and storage liens for motor vehicle and vessels and for assessing storage fees charged in the notice of claim of lien found in section 323.001, Florida Statutes.

## **Details:**

When a tow company recovers, tows, and stores a motor vehicle or vessel and cannot find the name and addresses of the registered owner(s) or lienholder(s), within 5 days, they must contact the local law enforcement agency where the motor vehicle or vessel is stored notifying that a physical search of the motor vehicle or vessel was performed and that no ownership information was found. If this Good Faith Notice was submitted within 5 days of storage, the tow company may charge storage fees for the entire dates of storage. If the Good Faith Notice was submitted after 5 days of storage, the tow company may only charge 5 days of storage to the lienholder, if applicable.

A law enforcement agency may request that a motor vehicle or vessel be stored at a tow company's facility for up to 5 days. Within 5 days the law enforcement agency must notify the tow company if they require the motor vehicle or vessel to be continued to be stored beyond 5 days. The assessment of storage fees for this scenario follows below:

- If the motor vehicle or vessel is requested to be stored at the tow company's facility for up to 5 days by law enforcement, the registered owner(s) and lienholder(s) are responsible for towing and storage charges for up to 5 days.
- If the motor vehicle or vessel is requested to be stored at the tow company's facility for over 5 days by law enforcement, the registered owner(s) and lienholder(s) are responsible for towing and storage charges for the first 5 days and the law enforcement agency will be responsible for storage charges beyond the first 5 days.

Review TL-26 for additional guidance and information on storage fees charged.

## **Conclusion:**

If you need additional information, please contact your next level of management or the Field Support Center.