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## Legal Authority

- **Section 328.09 (4), Florida Statutes** - Refusal to issue and authority to cancel a certificate of title or registration.

- **Section 823.11 (3), Florida Statutes** - Derelict vessels, relocation or removal, penalty.

- **Section 705.103(4), Florida Statutes** - Procedure for abandon or lost property.

## Description and Use

This procedure provides information and instructions to assist law enforcement with the process of adding or removing a vessel title stop.

## Definition of a Derelict Vessel

A derelict vessel is one that is left, stored or abandoned in a wrecked, junked or substantially dismantled condition upon any public waters or at a port in this state without the consent of the agency having jurisdiction thereof; including docked, grounded or beached upon the property of another without the consent of the owner of the property.

## Special Instructions and Responsibilities

A. To request a derelict vessel stop be placed on the title of a vessel located in Florida.
1. A written request must be submitted to the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV) by a law enforcement officer under section 823.11, F.S., as follows:
   
   a. The written request may be provided by email to Derelict@flhsmv.gov
      
      or,
   
   b. The written request may be provided by fax to (850) 617-3946.

   The written request must include the vessel's derelict status and the vessel title number or hull identification number.

   The title stop code “DB” – Derelict Vessel will be added to the title record and will be reflected in the Vehicle Stop Inquiry function in FRVIS, in Motorist Maintenance and DAVID.

B. To request a derelict vessel stop be removed from the title of a vessel located in Florida.

   1. A written request must be submitted to FLHSMV by a law enforcement officer under section 823.11, F.S., as follows:
      
      a. The written request may be provided by email to Derelict@flhsmv.gov
         
         or,
      
      b. The written request may be provided by fax to (850) 617-3946.

   The written request for the removal of the stop must include the law enforcement officer’s statement that the vessel is no longer a derelict and reference the vessel’s title number or hull identification number.

   The derelict vessel stop does not prevent the registration from being issued as an original, a renewal or from being replaced.

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**Revision(s) to Procedure**

**Conducted a statutory review of procedure.**

07/01/17: This procedure was created to provide instructions for the placement and removal of derelict vessel stops by law enforcement.