

MV-39, "Notification of Assignment/Correction of Vehicle Title upon Death of Owner"

GENERAL INFORMATION

Joint Tenants with Right of Survivorship - Upon the death of a co-owner, vehicle ownership is automatically passed to the surviving owner(s), and a new title may be applied for by the person(s) whose name(s) is (are) also on the title.

Tenants in Common - Upon the death of a co-owner, the deceased owner's interest in the vehicle passes to his/her surviving heir or estate. No special endorsement appears on such a certificate of title.

Probate - a process that transfers legal property from the estate of the deceased.

Executor - a person named in a will to supervise the deceased's estate.

Administrator - a person legally vested with the right of administration of an estate - the person is appointed by authority of law by register of will or court administrator.

VEHICLE OWNED BY DECEASED AND ANOTHER PERSON AS JOINT OWNERS WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP (REGARDLESS OF WILL OR APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR)

Joint Owner is Surviving Spouse

You will need to submit the following documents:

1. Title
 - a. If a vehicle is titled jointly to a husband and wife and the surviving spouse is taking title, they do not need to assign the certificate of title.
 - i. Make no entries on the reverse side of title
 - b. If a vehicle is titled jointly to a husband and wife and surviving spouse is not taking title since they are transferring ownership to another party.
 - i. The title does need to be assigned
 - ii. A completed MV-4ST form
2. Complete Form MV-39, "Notification of Assignment/Correction of Vehicle Title upon Death of Owner"
 - a. Complete Section A, B, C (checking option 1), G, H (if vehicle is going to be registered) and I.
 - b. Proof of Death
 - c. An original death certificate; or,
 - d. MV-39, Section G, completed by attending physician or funeral director
3. Insurance Information
 - a. If the vehicle is going to remain registered, Section H must be completed.
4. Fees
 - a. No fee required if surviving spouse is taking ownership
 - b. If surviving spouse is transferring ownership
 - i. \$22.50 title fee
 - ii. Applicable registration fees
 - iii. Applicable sales tax, if required

VEHICLE OWNED BY DECEASED AND ANOTHER PERSON AS JOINT OWNERS WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP (REGARDLESS OF WILL OR APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR)

Joint Owner is NOT a Surviving Spouse

You will need to submit the following documents:

1. Title
 - a. If a vehicle is titled jointly between deceased and other persons who are joint tenants with the right of survivorship (title will be endorsed "joint tenants with right of survivorship), the survivor does not need to assign the certificate of title.
 - i. Make no entries on the reverse side of title
 - b. If a vehicle is titled jointly between deceased and another person who are joint tenants with right of survivorship and the surviving owner is not taking title and instead transferring ownership to another party
 - i. The title does need to be assigned
 - ii. A completed MV-4ST form
2. Complete Form MV-39, "Notification of Assignment/Correction of Vehicle Title upon Death of Owner"
 - a. Complete Section A, B, C (checking option 2), G, H (if vehicle is going to be registered) and I.
3. Proof of Death
 - a. An original death certificate; or,
 - b. MV-39, Section G, completed by attending physician or funeral director
4. Insurance Information
 - a. If the vehicle is going to remain registered, Section H must be completed.
5. Fees
 - a. \$22.50 title fee is required.
 - b. If surviving owner is transferring ownership
 - i. \$22.50 title fee
 - ii. Applicable registration fees
 - iii. Applicable sales tax, if required

**VEHICLE OWNED SOLELY BY THE DECEASED OR BY THE DECEASED
AND ANOTHER PERSON AS TENANTS IN COMMON**

No Will - Surviving Spouse Who is Not a Co-Owner

If the deceased vehicle owner had no Will, no administrator is appointed and there is a surviving spouse, submit the following items:

1. Title
 - a. Assigned by the surviving spouse and any children who are at least 18 years of age (along with any co-owners)

2. Complete Form MV-39, "Notification of Assignment/Correction of Vehicle Title upon Death of Owner"
 - a. Complete Section A, B, C (checking Option 3), D, E, F, G, and I.
 - i. All heirs must enter their names, address, relationship and age in Section D.

3. Proof of Death
 - a. An original death certificate; or,

 - b. MV-39, Section G, completed by attending physician or funeral director

4. Form MV-4ST completed in full

5. Fees
 - a. \$22.50 title fee is required if being titled in any other name than a surviving spouse.

 - b. No title fee required if being titled to a surviving spouse.

**VEHICLE OWNED SOLELY BY THE DECEASED OR BY THE DECEASED
AND ANOTHER PERSON AS TENANTS IN COMMON**

Vehicle is Titled in Name of Estate

Section 1315 of the Vehicle Code provides that when the owner of a vehicle is deceased, the vehicle may be operated by or for any heir of the deceased owner or by the administrator or executor of the remainder of the current registration period and throughout the following registration period, provided that the registration is renewed in the name of the deceased owner's estate. Registrations may continue to be renewed annually in the name of the estate and the vehicle may continue to be operated by the spouse or, if there is no spouse (or if the spouse has forfeited his/her rights), by a child who was a member of the decedent's household or, if there is no spouse or child, by a parent who was a member of the decedent's household-until court approval of the final account, if any.

It is not necessary to apply for a title in the name of the estate in order to renew registration in the name of the estate, however, if a new title is desired, submit the following:

1. Title
 - a. Make no entries on the reverse side of the title

2. Complete Form MV-39, "Notification of Assignment/Correction of Vehicle Title upon Death of Owner"
 - a. Complete Section A, B, C (checking Option 4), G, H and I.

3. Proof of Death
 - a. An original death certificate; or,

 - b. MV-39, Section G, completed by attending physician or funeral director

4. Insurance Information
 - a. If the vehicle is going to remain registered, Section H must be completed.

5. Fees
 - a. \$22.50 title fee

**VEHICLE OWNED SOLELY BY THE DECEASED OR BY THE DECEASED
AND ANOTHER PERSON AS TENANTS IN COMMON**

No Will - No Surviving Spouse and No Minor Heirs

If the deceased vehicle owner had no Will, no administrator is appointed and there is no surviving spouse and no minor heirs, submit the following items:

1. Title
 - a. Assigned by all heirs as follows:
 - i. All adult children of the deceased or, if none;
 - ii. Parents of the deceased, or if none,
 - iii. Brothers and sisters of the deceased or, if none,
 - iv. Aunts and uncles (blood only) of the deceased or, if none,
 - v. First cousins (blood only) of the deceased
(After 1st cousins, a court order would be required.)

NOTE: In each category (except ii), if any of the persons specified are deceased, the person's children must sign.

2. Form MV-39, "Notification of Assignment/Correction of Vehicle Title upon Death of Owner"
 - a. Complete Section A, B, C (checking Option 5), D, E, G, and I.
 - i. All heirs must sign.
3. Proof of Death
 - a. An original death certificate; or,
 - b. MV-39, Section G, completed by attending physician or funeral director
4. Form MV-4ST completed in full
5. Fees
 - a. \$22.50 title fee
 - b. \$6.00 transfer fee to transfer a plate currently renewed in the name of the deceased owner. Plate is transferable only to spouse, children, parent, parents-in-law or children-in-law, step-children or step-parents. Otherwise, plate is not transferable.
 - c. Applicable sales tax, if required.

**VEHICLE OWNED SOLELY BY THE DECEASED OR BY THE DECEASED
AND ANOTHER PERSON AS TENANTS IN COMMON**

Will is not Probated - No Executor Appointed

This procedure may be used only if the will passes ownership of the vehicle to the surviving spouse, child/children or parent(s). The following must be submitted:

1. Title
 - a. Assigned by surviving spouse or adult child or children or parent(s) to whom the vehicle was willed.
2. Copy of the Will
3. Form MV-39, "Notification of Assignment/Correction of Vehicle Title upon Death of Owner"
 - a. Complete Section A, B, C (checking Option 6), G, H (if vehicle is to be registered), and I.
4. Completed Form MV-4ST
5. Proof of Death
 - a. An original death certificate; or,
 - b. MV-39, Section G, completed by attending physician or funeral director.
6. Fees
 - a. \$22.50 title fee if being titled in the name of child/children or parent(s).
 - b. No title fee required if being placed in the name of the surviving spouse
 - c. \$6.00 transfer fee
 - c. Applicable sales tax, if required.

VEHICLE OWNED SOLELY BY THE DECEASED OR BY THE DECEASED AND ANOTHER PERSON AS TENANTS IN COMMON

Executor or Administrator Appointed

Submit the following if an executor or administrator has been appointed:

1. Title
 - a. Assigned by executor or administrator (appointed by the Register of Wills) to the new owner.
 - b. Short Form Certificate which is obtainable from the Register of Wills and serves as evidence of the executor's or administrator's appointment.
2. Short Form Certificate
 - a. Obtainable from the Register of Wills and serves as evidence of the executor's or administrator's appointment.
3. Completed Form MV-4ST
4. Fees
 - a. \$22.50 title fee
 - i. No fee is required if the vehicle is being titled in the name of the surviving spouse
 - b. \$6.00 transfer fee if applicable
 - d. Applicable sales tax, if required.

**VEHICLE OWNED SOLELY BY THE DECEASED OR BY THE DECEASED
AND ANOTHER PERSON AS TENANTS IN COMMON**

Family Exemption

When a surviving spouse or child or parent of the same household of the deceased claims a vehicle as the whole or part of the family exemption under Section 3121 of the Probate, Estates and Fiduciaries Code (20 PS C.S. 3121), she/he may assign the title to the new owner. Attach the following:

1. Title
 - a. Assigned by the executor, administrator or the person(s) entitled to family exemption.
2. Affidavit of entitlement under 20 PA C.S. 3121
3. Completed Form MV-4ST
4. Fees
 - a. \$22.50 title fee if being titled in any other name other than a surviving spouse
 - i. No title fee required if the vehicle is being titled solely in the name of the surviving spouse
 - ii. \$6.00 transfer fee
 - iii. Applicable sales tax, if required.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 Department of Transportation
 Bureau of Motor Vehicles
 1101 S. Front Street
 Harrisburg, PA 17104-2516

**NOTIFICATION OF
 ASSIGNMENT/CORRECTION OF
 VEHICLE TITLE UPON DEATH
 OF OWNER**

Please read ALL information on reverse side before completing form.

↑ FOR BUREAU USE ONLY ↑

NOTE: PRINT OR TYPEWRITE ALL INFORMATION

A VEHICLE INFORMATION				
Title Number	Make of Vehicle	Vehicle Identification Number	Registration Plate Number	
B INFORMATION/APPLICANT (As defined on reverse side)				
Last Name		First Name		Middle Name or Initial
Street Address		City	State	Zip Code
C CHECK APPLICABLE BLOCK				
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership is being transferred to or by Surviving Spouse - who is co-owner. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership is being transferred to or by a Joint Tenant with right of survivorship. 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership is being transferred to or by Surviving Spouse - who is not co-owner. 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership is being titled in the estate. 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership is being transferred to or by all heirs. List all heirs in Section D. 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership is being transferred to or by surviving spouse or adult child(ren) to whom vehicle is given by decedent's will which is not to be probated.				
D HEIRS - List name, signature (Part II only), address, relationship and age of all heirs. (In conjunction with Assignment of Title)				
I NAME(S) List heirs signing attached title		ADDRESS	RELATIONSHIP	AGE
I (WE) certify that I (WE), together with the above person(s) who have executed the assignment block on the title constitute all of the heirs of the decedent and hereby join in the transfer of ownership of the above described vehicle to the person(s) indicated in the assignment block on the title.				
II NAME(S) Heirs not signing attached title		SIGNATURE	ADDRESS	RELATIONSHIP
		X		
		X		
		X		
		X		
E NOTARIZATION		F AFFIDAVIT OF PAYMENT DEBTS		
Subscribed and sworn to before me		I hereby state under oath that all debts of the decedent have been paid X _____ Signature of surviving spouse or adult heir		
Month _____ Day _____ Year _____				
Signature of person administering oath _____				
Municipality _____ County _____				
COMMISSION EXPIRATION DATE _____				
G PROOF OF DEATH - (Check one) Death Certificate need not be attached if No. 3 below is completed by attending physician or funeral director.				
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Death (must be attached)		3. <input type="checkbox"/> I Certify that _____ Name of Decedent		
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Death from Department of Defense (must be attached)		died on _____ Date		
		_____ Signature of Attending Physician or Funeral Director		
		_____ Print Name exactly as it appears above		
H VEHICLE INSURANCE INFORMATION				
Insurance Company Name		Policy Number	Policy Effective Date	Policy Expiration Date
I ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CERTIFICATION				
I/We acknowledge that I/We may lose my/our operating privilege or vehicle registrations for failure to maintain financial responsibility on the currently registered vehicle for the period of registration.				
Owner Sign Here X _____		Telephone Number (_____) _____		
Co-Owner Sign Here X _____		Driver License Number _____		
		Driver License Number _____		

MESSENGER NO. _____