

Alabama Department of Revenue

News Release

March 11, 2009

ADOR Launches New Online Abandoned Motor Vehicle Information Service

Montgomery—State Revenue Commissioner Tim Russell announced today a new online service available to businesses involved in the sale of abandoned motor vehicles.

“Alabama law requires specific notification procedures that sellers of abandoned motor vehicles must follow before a vehicle may be offered for sale,” explained Russell.

One very important requirement involves a title search of the abandoned motor vehicle to determine the current owner of the vehicle and any lien holders of record for the vehicle. Towing companies, storage companies, and automobile repair businesses beginning this process now have the online capability to obtain this information through a secure website offered through the ADOR’s website.

The new online service may be accessed at www.revenue.alabama.gov under the category entitled “E-Services.” The new service is provided to users by Alabama Interactive. Users simply click on the link entitled “Abandoned Motor Vehicle Information Service” and follow the prompts. To utilize the service, a \$75 annual subscription service fee and a \$2 per record convenience fee are charged. The ADOR receives no part of the convenience fees charged.

An “abandoned motor vehicle” refers to a vehicle that has been left by an owner, or some person acting for the owner, with an automobile dealer, repairman, or wrecker service for repair or for some other reason and has not been called for by the owner or the other person within 60 days. Motor vehicles left unattended on a public street, road, or highway or other public property for seven or more days or left unattended continuously for at least seven days in a business or residential district are also considered abandoned.

Approximately 18,000 vehicles are sold annually under provisions of Alabama’s abandoned motor vehicle law.

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Media contact for more information: ADOR Media Affairs Office:

Carla A. Snellgrove or Carolyn Blackstock: (334) 242-1390;
FAX: (334) 242-0550
WEB site address: www.revenue.alabama.gov