Vehicle Uniform Surety Bond

Introduction (read all instructions carefully)

[MCL 324.80307 (2)] [MCL 324.82105 (2)] [MCL 257.217(1)(d)]

Before you can title or register a titled motor vehicle, titled trailer, trailer coach, moped, watercraft, ORV, or snowmobile without a properly assigned ownership document, you must file a Vehicle Uniform Surety Bond (TR-121) with the Michigan Department of State along with your title or registration application.

Instructions

1. The surety bond must list the complete VIN/HIN. If there is no Michigan record, a TR-54 VIN/HIN inspection must be completed by a Michigan law enforcement agency and submitted with the Surety Bond.

2. Proof of the bond company's authorization to issue surety bonds must accompany the surety bond. The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs must license the surety company.

3. The person applying for the title or registration must sign the surety bond. If a business or organization is applying for the title or registration, a representative of the business or organization must sign the surety bond. Applicants are named as the "Principal" and must include their complete residence or business address.

4. A representative of the insurance company or bonding agency must sign the surety bond. A duly authorized agent of the surety company must issue the bond. If the agent is a licensed nonresident agent, a licensed resident agent must countersign the bond.

5. The bond's amount must equal twice the value of the item in question.

6. The effective date of the bond must be no later than the date of application for the title or registration.

7. A surety bond is issued for three years.

8. In addition to the TR-121 Vehicle Uniform Surety Bond, all applicants must complete a TR-205 Self-Certification of Vehicle Ownership form. Incomplete forms will not be accepted. Forms with insufficient information will not be accepted.

9. Submit the TR-121 Vehicle Uniform Surety Bond, the bond company's authorization to issue surety bonds, the TR-205 Self-Certification of Vehicle Ownership form, and all other supporting documents to a secretary of state office.

A registration may be purchased as part of your transaction. For vehicles, proof of Michigan no-fault insurance must be presented.

Use tax is due on 6% of the value (1/2 of the surety bond amount) or the purchase price, whichever is higher, as required by the Sales and Use Tax Act (MCL 205.179).

**Please note: Personally identifiable information collected on these forms is limited to what's needed to complete your transaction. For other ways your information may be used, visit Michigan.gov/SOS/policies

CLEAR FORM

TR-121 Vehicle Uniform Surety Bond

Because the Michigan Department of State is not satisfied as to the ownership of this vehicle/watercraft/snowmobile, the department requires the applicant to file this bond as a condition of issuing a Michigan title or registration pursuant to section 217(1) (d) of the Michigan Vehicle Code, 1949 PA 300, as amended (MCL 257.217), and Sections 803 and 821 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act as amended (324.80307 and 324.82105).

Information about the subject of this bond

Type of item bonded: ☐ Vehicle ☐ Trailer Coach ☐ Titled Trailer ☐ ORV
☐ Moped ☐ Watercraft ☐ Snowmobile

Year _____ Make _____ Body style _____

VIN/HIN: _____

Printed name of Principal: _____

Address of Principal: _____

Bond amount: _____ Bond execution date: _____

Printed name of Authorized Surety Company: _____

Provisions of this bond

The above named Principal and Authorized Surety Company as Surety, by this instrument firmly bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators and successors, and assigns, jointly and severally, to the Michigan Department of State, its officers and employees, for the benefit of any interested person, in the amount indicated in the Bond amount field above, which is twice the value of the subject of this bond.

The Principal shall indemnify and hold harmless the Secretary of State, every employee of the Michigan Department of State, any prior owner, any subsequent purchaser of the bonded item described above, and their successors in interest, against any expense, loss or damage, including reasonable attorney fees, by reason of the issuance of a Michigan certificate of title or registration to the Principal for the unit described above, or an account of any defect in the right, title or interest of the Principal in the vehicle, watercraft or snowmobile.

Any interested party may bring an action in the party's own name to recover on this bond any damages sustained by the party for any breach of the conditions for which the bond is deposited, and may recover costs and reasonable attorney fees.

The Surety's aggregate liability to all interested persons shall not exceed the amount set forth above.

If the bonded item is no longer titled or registered in this state and the currently valid title or registration is surrendered, the latest the bond will be in effect is at the end of three years from the time it was issued, unless the department receives notification of pending action to recover on this bond.

Signature of principal:
(or authorized agent) _____

Printed name of principal:
(or authorized agent) _____

Signature of authorized agent of surety company:

_____

Printed name of authorized agent of surety company:

_____