

Carmen P. Turner, MPA
Fort Bend County Tax Assessor / Collector

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Bonded Title Procedure

If you do not have acceptable evidence of ownership for a vehicle you own, you may have the option of applying for a bonded title.

Step 1: Obtain a VTR-68a from the FBCSO Auto Theft Unit (Required on all Vehicle titled in Fort Bend County) Effective 06/1/2024

Step 2: Determine your eligibility

- In order to qualify, you must be a Texas resident or military personnel stationed in Texas; or
- Have a vehicle that was last titled in Texas.
- The vehicle must be in your possession and cannot be considered abandoned, junked, stolen, or in any other pending lawsuits. Although not required to be operational, it must be a complete vehicle including a frame, body, and motor; or, if a motorcycle, a frame and motor.
- If you meet the above eligibility requirements, take or mail the following documents and a \$15.00 administrative fee (TxDMV accepts cash, checks and money orders as payment) to your nearest [TxDMV Regional Service Center](#):

Houston Regional Office: 2110 EAST GOVERNORS CIR HOUSTON TX 77092 / PHONE No.: 713-316-6100

- A [Statement of Fact for Bonded Title](#) (VTR-130-SOF),
- Any supporting evidence of ownership (Bill of Sale, Invoice, Cancelled Check, etc.)
- If evidence indicates the vehicle is from another state or country, a *Law Enforcement Identification Number Inspection* (VTR-68-A) is required. Inquire with local law enforcement agencies (Auto Theft Unit) to determine when and where these inspections are offered. The inspecting officer will provide you with the VTR-68-A.
- Acceptable photo ID

If your documents are approved, TxDMV will issue you a letter with the amount of the bond equal to 1½ times the value of the vehicle. The department is responsible for determining the value of the vehicle using:

- The Standard Presumptive Value (SPV) from our website (www.TxDmv.gov) as the primary source
- If an SPV is not available, a national reference guide, National Auto Dealers Association (NADA) will be used
- **If a value is not available either through SPV or NADA**, a licensed motor vehicle dealer or insurance adjuster may appraise the vehicle on a form provided by VTR. (Form VTR-125-Motor Vehicle Appraisal for Tax Collector Hearing/Bonded Title)
- Vehicles 25 years old or older:
 - The department will determine and assign the bond value
 - Appraisals less than \$4,000 will not be accepted.

Step 2: Purchase a Surety Bond

Take the letter and other documents given to you by the TxDMV Regional Service Center to an auto insurance agency or any agency that is licensed to sell vehicle Surety Bonds in Texas.

You have one year from the date of the letter to purchase a Surety Bond in the amount shown on the letter, otherwise a new letter and bond would be required.

Note: If records indicate that the vehicle has a lien that is less than 10 years old, the surety bonding company is responsible for ensuring that the lien has been satisfied or released.

Step 3: Apply for a bonded title

Within 30 days from purchasing the surety bond, take the original letter given to you by the Regional Office and the documents listed above, to your [county tax office](#), in addition to:

- a completed Application for Texas Title and /or Registration ([Form 130-U](#))
- proof of insurance.
- weight certificate (if a trailer, some travel trailers, commercial vehicle, or a truck)
- Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR), completed by a [Safety Inspection Station](#) (if previously titled out of state)
- If imported, Proof of compliance, or an approved exemption, with all United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) is reported at the time the vehicle is imported by filing a USDOT Importation of Motor Vehicles and Motor Vehicle Equipment Subject to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety, Bumper and Theft Prevention Standards (Form HS-7). All importers must complete a Form HS-7 and check the appropriate box indicating compliance or non-compliance with USDOT safety standards and any possible exemptions from those requirements. The Form HS-7 indicates any additional documents (e.g., customs bond, NHTSA exemption letter) which must accompany the Form HS-7. These additional documents are established based on the box selected on the Form HS-7.

A vehicle owner may submit an inquiry to importandcertification@nhtsa.dot.gov or by calling (202) 366-5291 to determine if a vehicle was properly declared upon entry.

To download state forms and acquire information visit their website. www.txdmv.gov

Texas Vehicle Inspection Report (Emissions Certificate) Any 2- to 24-year-old, gasoline-powered vehicle previously registered in a non-emissions county which is being transferred in Fort Bend County must pass an approved emissions test. For further information on emissions, contact the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality 1-888-295-0141.

Payments accepted are cash, check and most major credit cards at all locations. Credit cards accepted with a convenience fee.

For drivers license information contact the Texas Department of Public Safety, Rosenberg, TX: (281) 517-1630 or visit their web site.

www.txdps.state.tx.us

Office hours: Monday-Friday 8:00AM-4:00PM

Locations

1317 Eugene Heimann Cir., Richmond, TX 77469-3623
12550 Emily Ct. Ste. 100, Sugar Land, TX 77478-3289
307 Texas Parkway Ste. 113, Missouri City, TX 77489-1151

22333 Grand Corner Dr. Ste. 101, Katy, TX, 77494-5749
3743 School St., Needville, TX 77461-8365
5855 Sienna Springs Way Ste. 101, Missouri City, TX 77459-6067



Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office Auto Theft Unit



**68-A Inspections are done every Wednesday between the hours of
9am – 11am and 1pm-3pm**

No Appointment needed

Any questions please contact Detective Hartifield- 281-341-4699

Location - 231 Legion Dr. – FBCSO Auto Theft Building

VTR 68-A Vehicle Inspections:

- The FBCSO Auto Theft Unit conducts these inspections for **residents of Fort Bend County**. If you live in a County or Municipality that does not conduct 68-A Inspections, you can contact the FBCSO Auto Theft Unit.
 - The vehicle **MUST** be "road ready". Inspections **will not** be conducted on partially assembled vehicles.

Reasons for VTR 68-A:

- **Vehicle is being imported from another country:**
 - You must bring the vehicle, your identification and any other documents you have for the vehicle.
- **Vehicle is missing the VIN plate:**
 - The FBCSO Auto Theft Unit will conduct the inspections on these vehicles, but please bring any documentation for the vehicle.
- **Assembled vehicles:**
 - The FBCSO Auto Theft Division will conduct the inspections on these vehicles, but please bring any documentation for the vehicle.
- **Homemade Trailers:**
 - **MUST** bring all documentation showing how the trailer was built and where the materials came from. Citizens should be able to provide pictures that show the start and end of the building of the trailer.
- **Any other reason the Department of Motor Vehicle has told you that you need to provide a VTR 68-A:**
 - The FBCSO Auto Theft Unit will conduct the inspections on these vehicles.