

Vehicle Lien Sales

New Legislation

Effective January 1, 2008, new legislation:

- Increases repair and storage lien fees that may be recovered by a person who has repaired, furnished supplies/materials for, towed, or stored a vehicle, and have not been paid for services rendered from:
 - \$750 to \$1,500 for any repairs or service.
 - \$400 to \$1,025 for storage or safekeeping charges.
 - \$500 to \$1,250 for storage charges for vehicles valued over \$4,000.
- Prohibits the lienholder from dismantling, disengaging, removing, or stripping from the vehicle the parts used to complete the work or services.
- Expands the circumstances to invalidate the lien. The lien may be extinguished if the lienholder does not respond within ten days to a written demand by the legal owner or lessor for a written copy of the work order or invoice showing the services or repair performed, and the authorization from the registered owner to the lienholder to perform the services or repairs.

Background

California Civil Code § 3068 grants a lien upon a vehicle to any person who is legally entitled to compensation for making repairs, performing labor, furnishing supplies or materials, storing, repairing, safekeeping or renting parking space for a vehicle subject to vehicle registration by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

Reference

California Civil Code § 3068

Distribution

Notification that this memo is available online at www.dmv.ca.gov under Publications was made via e-mail alert in DECEMBER 2007.

Contact

Call the DMV Customer Communications Section at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo. Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.



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