



September 7, 2017

**Registration and Title Bulletin # 016-17  
Policy and Procedure**

**TO:** All County Tax Assessor-Collectors

**SUBJECT:** Rebuilt Salvage Applications for Hail Damaged and Recovered Stolen Vehicles

**PURPOSE**

To provide guidance on repairs documented on the *Rebuilt Vehicle Statement* (Form VTR-61) for undamaged recovered stolen vehicles or vehicles damaged exclusively by hail.

**DETAILS**

The department observed an increase in insurance companies submitting applications for a Texas Salvage Vehicle Title for undamaged recovered stolen vehicles and vehicles damaged exclusively by hail. Texas law excludes undamaged recovered stolen vehicles and vehicles damaged exclusively by hail from the definition of a salvage vehicle; therefore, voluntary applications for these types of vehicles is not permitted.

On June 30, 2017, the department distributed a communication to insurance companies reinforcing existing legal requirements for Texas salvage title applications. Additionally, insurance companies were notified the department will begin a stringent effort to increase title examinations for improper Texas salvage title applications beginning September 1, 2017. No Texas Salvage Vehicle Title will be issued on or after September 11, 2017, for a vehicle that was damaged exclusively by hail or an undamaged recovered stolen vehicle.

As a result, an application for title for a rebuilt salvage vehicle is not acceptable if the application is supported by a Texas Salvage Vehicle Title issued on or after September 11, 2017, and a *Rebuilt Vehicle Statement* (VTR-61) indicating no repairs were required because the vehicle was a recovered stolen vehicle, or the vehicle was damaged exclusively by hail.

**COUNTY ACTION**

Reject any application for title for a rebuilt salvage vehicle if the application is supported by a Texas Salvage Vehicle Title issued on or after September 11, 2017, and a *Rebuilt Vehicle Statement* (VTR-61) indicating no repairs were required because the vehicle was a recovered stolen vehicle, or the vehicle was damaged exclusively by hail.

**CONTACT**

If you have any questions, please contact your local Texas Department of Motor Vehicles Regional Service Center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeremiah Kuntz".

Jeremiah Kuntz, Director  
Vehicle Titles and Registration Division

JK:TT:KK