

## **TDEC cleanup guidance for motor vehicles contaminated as a result of clandestine methamphetamine lab (CML) activities.**

In order to reduce potential liability, law enforcement agencies, lending institutions, property owners, and car dealerships are challenged with how to properly clean or dispose of motor vehicles contaminated with CML related contaminants.

**(Note: The greatest risk of exposure to methamphetamine related contaminants in vehicles occur when CML vehicles are reused without being properly decontaminated. Another potential exposure risk occurs when contaminated absorbent parts from inside CML vehicles are reused in other vehicles as a result of being improperly disposed of, or salvaged).**

When the manufacturing of methamphetamine, or its reagents, has occurred inside a motor vehicle, the vehicle must be either: A.) Quarantined and properly decontaminated before reuse, or B.) Quarantined and absorbent interior parts rendered unserviceable before disposal or salvage occurs. Motor vehicles include all vehicles capable of self-propulsion, or being hauled on public roads. (e.g.- cars, trucks, trailers, RVs, etc...) T.C.A. §55-1-103(3) and §55-1-105.

**(Note: Rarely will CML vehicles be worthy of cleaning for reuse. Most often, vehicles involved in CML activities will have very little value other than for salvage for parts, or metal scrap.)**

- A. **If it is determined that a motor vehicle is worthy of cleaning for resale or for reuse purposes**, then law enforcement must quarantine the vehicle, and send a copy of quarantine to TDEC. (T.C.A. §68-212-Part 5) Any person or party having any right, title, or interest in the quarantined property, including any lien holders must contact a TDEC certified CML Cleanup Contractors and /or Hygienists for proper decontamination and testing.
- B. **If it is determined that a motor vehicle is to be disposed of, salvaged for parts, or metal scrap**, then law enforcement must quarantine the vehicle, and send a copy of quarantine to TDEC. (T.C.A. §68-212-Part 5), and then the following actions must be photographed, adequately documented, and recorded with case files.
  1. The individual or entity that is going to dispose of or salvage a motor vehicle affected by CML activities, must have a legal and unencumbered title to the motor vehicle. (e.g. - law enforcement property seizure protocols, lien holders, car owners, and car dealerships...)
  2. All interior absorbent parts such as carpets, dashboards, door panels, consoles, headliners, seats, etc. must be cross cut with a utility knife, and then sprayed with a permanent fluorescent paint or dye as to render these items unserviceable for reuse. For mobile homes: refer to Appendix C-11 of TDEC RAP Cleanup Guidance.
  3. The vehicle's title must be recorded as non-repairable due to methamphetamine contamination. With reference to T.C.A §55-3-211(3), a non-repairable vehicle certificate means that a vehicle shall never again be titled or registered. It has no resale value except as a source of parts or scrap only. Please follow the instruction below on to **'HOW TO SECURE A NON-REPAIRABLE CERTIFICATE'**.
  4. Contact a licensed salvage yard operator for appropriate parts salvage or metal scrap of vehicle. Document that the salvage yard operator was informed of his disposal and decontamination responsibilities.  
(The salvage yard operator is responsible for proper management and disposal of vehicle fluids, i.e. Freon, fuel, and lubricants. If air conditioner coils or heating units are reusable, they must be properly decontaminated by using a power washer along with an appropriate cleaning agent prior to resale.)

### **HOW TO SECURE A NON-REPAIRABLE CERTIFICATE**

1. Complete form RV-F1311801 and sign. <http://www.state.tn.us/revenue/forms/titlereg/salvageandrepair.pdf>
2. In completing this application, if applicable, it is important that the current odometer reading be shown in the appropriate place on the bottom half of the form. Only check one of the two boxes located directly under the State seal, indicating that a **Non-Repairable Certificate** is being requested. A **Non-Repairable Certificate** means that the vehicle may never be used on the roads in Tennessee, and a Tennessee Certificate of Title will never be issued on this vehicle.
3. Return the completed RV-F1311801 form with the Tennessee title issued for the vehicle. If there is a lien shown on the title, it must be properly discharged. If you have an active lien, you may not continue with this process. There is no provision in the law permitting a lien to be recorded on a **Non-Repairable Certificate**.

A fee is not currently required to process this type of application. The application and title should be returned to the address shown below. If you have any questions regarding the issuance of a **Non-Repairable Certificate**, contact the Anti-Theft Unit, [denise.jones@state.tn.us](mailto:denise.jones@state.tn.us) or call 615-253-7246.

Tennessee Department of Revenue  
Anti-Theft Unit  
44 Vantage Way, Suite 160  
Nashville, TN 37243-8050