

Are There Penalties for a Business that Does Not Register with NMVTIS or Report as Required

Yes. Failure to report to NMVTIS as required is punishable by a federal civil penalty of \$1,000 per violation. For example, a failure to report 100 junk or salvage automobiles could result in a civil penalty of up to \$100,000. State civil or criminal penalties may also apply. Check with your state NMVTIS coordinator to learn if your state has applicable laws.

How Do I Report NMVTIS Federal Violations?

Potential nonreporting violations should be submitted to the NMVTIS Enforcement Program Office either by email or through the NMVTIS Law Enforcement Access Tool (LEAT). When possible, please submit the police report and any supporting documents along with the Law Enforcement NMVTIS Violation Report form. This form is available and can be submitted on the NMVTIS LEAT website.

NMVTIS National Motor Vehicle Title Information System		LAW ENFORCEMENT NMVTIS VIOLATION REPORT	
SECTION ONE – REPORTING OFFICER INFORMATION			
Reporting Officer's Name:			
Reporting Officer's Agency:			
Agency Address:			
Work Phone:		Cellular Phone:	
Email Address:			
SECTION TWO – SUSPECT NMVTIS VIOLATOR INFORMATION			
Business Name:			

Information to Support an Investigation

This information may assist law enforcement and investigators in conducting a NMVTIS-related investigation. Forms mentioned are available within the NMVTIS LEAT program.

Examples of Substantial Evidence Document

This document explains the types of evidence required by DOJ in order to pursue a federal civil penalty for NMVTIS non-reporting. When a business is alleged to have not reported junk or salvage automobiles to NMVTIS and a referral to DOJ is being considered, the evidence summarized in this document may support a DOJ finding of a violation of NMVTIS reporting requirements.

Declaration of Junk/Salvage Inventory Form

This form is intended to assist in validating that the unreported automobiles satisfy the statutory/regulatory definitions of “junk automobile” or “salvage automobile.” This form is useful to validate vehicles that are no longer physically on site, but records demonstrate or the business owner acknowledges, that the vehicles in question had been obtained and processed by the business.

Tips to Identify and Investigate NMVTIS Violations

- When checking for state and local business licenses, also confirm if the business has a federal NMVTIS reporting ID number.
- Record VINs of all junk and salvage automobiles on the lot. If applicable, obtain copies of VIN inventory records and photos of vehicles for nonreporting referral to DOJ.
- Check VINs through NMVTIS to identify fraudulently titled vehicles.

NMVTIS Enforcement Program Contact:

Greg Joy, Policy Advisor
Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)
NMVTIS Program Office
810 7th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20531
Phone: (202) 514-1369
Email: Gregory.Joy@usdoj.gov
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Law Enforcement & Vehicle Title Investigator Guide

National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS)

www.vehiclehistory.gov



What is NMVTIS?

The National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS) was established under the Anti Car Theft Act of 1992 and was reauthorized under the Anti Car Theft Improvements Act of 1996. The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) is responsible for the oversight of the NMVTIS program. The American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) operates NMVTIS on behalf of DOJ.

NMVTIS is intended to protect consumers from fraud and unsafe vehicles. It is also a tool designed to assist state vehicle title issuance agencies, vehicle title investigators, and law enforcement in deterring and preventing vehicle-related crimes. The system captures specific pieces of vehicle information from state motor vehicle titling agencies, automobile recyclers, junk and salvage yards, insurance carriers, and third party data sources into one system.

What Type of Business Qualifies as a NMVTIS Reporting Entity?

Per NMVTIS regulations, all entities, including junk yards and salvage yards handling **five or more** junk or salvage automobiles per year shall provide NMVTIS with specific information on each junk or salvage automobile obtained in whole or in part in the prior month. The list of industries that are specifically identified in the regulatory definitions of “junk yard” and “salvage yard” is not an exhaustive list. If an individual or entity is engaged in the business of acquiring or owning junk or salvage automobiles for resale in their entirety or as spare parts; or rebuilding, restoration, or crushing **AND** handles five or more junk or salvage automobiles per year, **THEN** that individual or entity has a NMVTIS reporting obligation.

www.vehiclehistory.gov



How Does a NMVTIS Reporting Entity Report the Required Information?

Salvage entities reporting into NMVTIS are required to report through NMVTIS data consolidators (reporting entities). An alphabetized list of NMVTIS data consolidators can be found at www.vehiclehistory.gov/nmvtis_auto.html. NMVTIS data consolidators assign NMVTIS ID numbers to salvage entities and collect the required NMVTIS information.

How Can Law Enforcement and Vehicle Title Investigators Access NMVTIS Data?

The NMVTIS Law Enforcement Access Tool (LEAT) allows access to NMVTIS data and other pertinent vehicle information at no cost through the Department of Justice Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) or the Federal Bureau of Investigation Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal (LEEP).

For instructions on how to access NMVTIS data through RISS, contact the RISS Center serving your jurisdiction. To see which RISS Center serves your state please go to <https://www.riss.net/Default/Overview>.

If you do not have RISS access, you may obtain access to LEAT by obtaining a LEEP account. To obtain a LEEP account, apply online at <https://www.cjis.gov/onlineapp/index.xhtml> or call the FBI Support Center at (888) 334-4536.

If you are a non-sworn vehicle title investigator, you may obtain access to LEAT by contacting the DOJ at nmvtis@usdoj.gov.



What Information is Available to Law Enforcement and Vehicle Title Investigators through LEAT?

LEAT provides valuable information necessary to investigate crimes associated with motor vehicles, including vehicle theft, fraud, and smuggling. In addition to vehicle information provided by state titling agencies, auto recyclers, vehicle salvage yards and junk yards, and insurance carriers report pertinent vehicle data. Vehicle information from additional data sources is also provided. This data includes: stolen vehicle files; flood and damaged vehicle records; vehicle export, impound, and lien records; and cloned and counterfeit Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) files. LEAT contains a VIN analyzer providing specific vehicle details and also allows an officer to report violations directly to DOJ. Each state's titling agency and law enforcement NMVTIS contacts are included to provide ease in the sharing and obtaining of related information.

How Do I Determine If a Business is Registered to Report to NMVTIS

NMVTIS allows LEAT users the ability to check whether a business is registered to report to NMVTIS and the date of the registered business' last report. This information can be found within LEAT under the heading “JSI Reporting Entities.”

How Can a Consumer Obtain a NMVTIS Vehicle History Report?

Consumers can search NMVTIS to find important vehicle condition and history information by selecting and contacting an Approved NMVTIS Data Provider at: http://www.vehiclehistory.gov/nmvtis_vehiclehistory.html.