



## PETITIONING TO AWARD TITLE TO A MOTOR VEHICLE

### An Informational Guide to a North Dakota State Civil Court Process

The North Dakota Legal Self Help Center provides resources to people who represent themselves in civil matters in the North Dakota state courts. The information provided in this informational guide **isn't** intended for legal advice but only as a general guide to a civil court process.

**If you're unsure how to proceed, or need legal advice or legal representation, consult a lawyer licensed to practice in North Dakota.** If you're unsure if the information in this guide suits your circumstances, consult a lawyer. For information about how to find a lawyer, to go [ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help/finding-a-lawyer](https://ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help/finding-a-lawyer).

**As a self-represented individual, you're held to the same requirements and responsibilities as a lawyer, even if you don't understand the rules or procedures. You're expected to know and follow the law, including:**

- State or federal laws that apply to your case;
- Case law, also called court opinions, that applies to your case; and
- Court rules that apply to your case, which may include:
  - North Dakota Rules of Civil Procedure;
  - North Dakota Rules of Court;
  - North Dakota Rules of Evidence;
  - North Dakota Administrative Rules and Orders;
  - Any local court rules.

Links to the laws, case law, and court rules are available at [ndcourts.gov](https://ndcourts.gov).

A glossary with definitions of legal terms is available at [ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help](https://ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help).

***This information isn't a complete statement of the law. This guide covers basic information about the process of petitioning a North Dakota State District Court to award title to a motor vehicle. The Center isn't responsible for any consequences that may result from the information provided. The information can't replace the advice of a lawyer licensed in the state of North Dakota.***

***Use at your own risk.***

### **Caution!**

**If a legal entity, such as a business, a corporation, or a limited liability company, will be awarded title to the motor vehicle if the petition is granted, **Stop!****

Consult a lawyer licensed to practice in North Dakota. Non-lawyers **can't** represent legal entities in North Dakota state district court. Documents signed by non-lawyer agents of a legal entity are considered void. (See [Wetzel v. Schlenvogt](#), 2005 ND 190; and [State ex rel. Department of Labor v. Riemers](#), 2008 ND 191.)

**This informational guide to petitioning a North Dakota state district court to award title to a motor vehicle is made up of two sections:**

**Section One** gives you general information about petitioning to award title to a motor vehicle. (Pages 2 - 7)

**Section Two** gives you information about the basic petition process in North Dakota state district court from beginning to end. (Pages 8 - 13)

## **Section One:**

### **Information about Petitioning a North Dakota State District Court to Award Title to a Motor Vehicle**

#### **Overview**

**The information in this guide covers the basic process of petitioning a North Dakota State District Court to award title to a motor vehicle.**

When an individual is unable to get title to a motor vehicle through the process set out by the North Dakota Department of Transportation, the individual may petition a North Dakota state district court to award title to the motor vehicle.

**The individual petitioning the North Dakota state district court must:**

1. Prove their ownership of the motor vehicle; **and**
2. Prove the steps they took to get title to the motor vehicle.

If your circumstances are complex, or if you're not sure this is the appropriate court process for your circumstances, [consult a lawyer](#) who can agree to represent you.

#### **Contact the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT)**

Before petitioning a North Dakota state district court, contact the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) for information on their process for getting title to a vehicle. If you meet the NDDOT's requirements, you may be able to get title to a vehicle without petitioning a North Dakota State District Court to award title.

The website is [dot.nd.gov](http://dot.nd.gov). The phone number for titling and registration is (701) 328-2725.

## Does the North Dakota Legal Self Help Center Have Forms to Petition to Award Title to a Motor Vehicle?

**No**, the North Dakota Legal Self Help Center doesn't have forms for petitioning a North Dakota state district court to award title to a motor vehicle. If you decide to represent yourself, you create your own legal documents.

**Names and descriptions of the documents you need to create are found throughout this guide.**

Formatting examples of some of the documents you need to create are available at the end of this guide.

A variety of General-Use forms are available at [ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help/general-use-forms](https://ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help/general-use-forms). You may find the General-Use forms of interest as a starting point for creating your own legal documents.

**To find North Dakota state district court cases with petitions to award title to motor vehicle,** go to [ndcourts.gov/public-access](https://ndcourts.gov/public-access). You may search publically court records by the first and last name of an individual or the name of a business.

- Read the information, then click "Click Here to Proceed."
- Select the State of North Dakota from the pull down menu. Click the "Civil, Family & Probate Case Records" link.
- In Party Information, select "Business" and type "North Dakota Department of Transportation". (You may also try "ND Department of Transportation, NDDOT, etc.)
- In Date Filed, enter a date range, for example 01/01/2023 and 10/01/2023.
- In Case Types, select "Other Civil".
- Click the "Search" box.

To review an individual case and see the list of documents filed, click on the case number. (You can't view the documents themselves.)

If you want to view or get copies of any of the documents listed in a case, you must contact the clerk of court of the county where the case was filed. Contact information for clerks of court is available at [ndcourts.gov/court-locations](https://ndcourts.gov/court-locations).

Each filed document is assigned an index number. The index number is listed to the left of the name of the document. For example, "Doc ID# 1." Give the clerk of court the case number and index number of each document you would like to view or get a copy.

Ask the clerk of court for the amount of the fee for copying documents.

## Is There Help Available for Creating Legal Documents?

North Dakota Legal Self Help Center staff and court system staff **can't** create any legal documents for you, and **can't** assist you with creating or preparing your legal documents.

[Consult a lawyer](#) licensed to practice in North Dakota.

Ask the lawyer about Limited Legal Representation. Lawyers licensed to practice in North Dakota may agree to help you with part of your civil action, such as preparing legal documents, while you handle the rest of your civil action. You and the lawyer must agree in writing to Limited Legal Representation.

## Who are the Parties in a Petition to Award Title to a Motor Vehicle?

**Petitioner** – The individual(s) making the request to award title to a motor vehicle. The Petitioner starts the civil action by serving a summons and petition on the Respondent(s).

**Respondent** – The person or persons you ask the court to order to do something. The Petitioner arranges for service of the summons and petition on each Respondent.

- For example, if petition the court to order the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) to do something, the NDDOT is a Respondent.

## What are the Definitions of Some of the Commonly Used Terms in a Petition to Award Title to a Motor Vehicle?

**Department** – The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT).

**Motor Vehicle (Chapter 39-01)** – In [North Dakota Century Code Chapter 39-01](#), “motor vehicle” includes every vehicle that is self-propelled, every vehicle that is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires, but not operated upon rails, and, for purposes of motor vehicle registration, title registration, and operator's licenses, motorized bicycles. The term does not include a snowmobile as defined in [North Dakota Century Code Section 39-24-01](#), an electric bicycle, or a multi-passenger bicycle.

**Motor Vehicle (Chapter 39-05)** – In [North Dakota Century Code Chapter 39-05](#), “motor vehicle” also includes a houstrailer or mobile home and a semitrailer designed to be towed by a truck tractor and "manufactured home" means a manufactured home as defined in [North Dakota Century Code Section 41-09-02](#).

**Venue** - The North Dakota county in which the North Dakota state district court will hear and decide the civil action.

## What are North Dakota Laws & Rules Related to Petitioning to Award Title to a Motor Vehicle?

**Chapter 28-04 of the North Dakota Century Code** [ndlegis.gov/cencode/t28c04.html](https://ndlegis.gov/cencode/t28c04.html) governs which North Dakota state district court may hear the petition. This is referred to as venue. Review the Chapter to decide where to file the summons and petition.

**Chapter 39-01 of the North Dakota Century Code** [ndlegis.gov/cencode/t39c01.html](https://ndlegis.gov/cencode/t39c01.html) lists definitions and general provisions relating to motor vehicles.

**Chapter 39-05 of the North Dakota Century Code** [ndlegis.gov/cencode/t39c05.html](https://ndlegis.gov/cencode/t39c05.html) governs title registration.

- See Section 39-05-20 for laws related to getting a new title from the NDDOT when unable to get the old title. ([ndlegis.gov/cencode/t39c05.pdf#nameddest=39-05-20](https://ndlegis.gov/cencode/t39c05.pdf#nameddest=39-05-20))

**Chapter 37-12-04 of the North Dakota Administrative Code** [ndlegis.gov/information/acdata/pdf/37-12-04.pdf](https://ndlegis.gov/information/acdata/pdf/37-12-04.pdf) contains the administrative rules enacted by the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) related to the NDDOT's procedure for getting certificate of title for untitled vehicles.

**The North Dakota Rules of Civil Procedure** apply to civil actions in North Dakota state district courts. The rules are available at [ndcourts.gov/legal-resources/rules/ndrcivp](https://ndcourts.gov/legal-resources/rules/ndrcivp).

**The North Dakota Rules of Court** apply to civil actions in North Dakota state district courts. The rules are available at [ndcourts.gov/legal-resources/rules/ndrct](https://ndcourts.gov/legal-resources/rules/ndrct).

**The North Dakota Rules of Evidence** apply to civil actions in North Dakota state district courts. The rules are available at [ndcourts.gov/legal-resources/rules/ndrev](https://ndcourts.gov/legal-resources/rules/ndrev).

**North Dakota Case Law** is useful for interpreting what the law means for your individual circumstances. When the decision of a case is appealed from a North Dakota state district court to the North Dakota Supreme Court, the Supreme Court writes their opinion to explain how and why they interpreted the laws or rules to decide the appeal the way they did. The opinions are case law and are followed by North Dakota courts deciding later cases with similar facts and issues.

One way to research case law related to awarding title to a motor vehicle, is to use the print version of the North Dakota Century Code to find the short summaries of case law after each Section of the Century Code. The case law summaries are located directly following the text of the Century Code Section. To view the full text of the opinion, go to [ndcourts.gov](https://ndcourts.gov), click on the "Supreme Court Opinions" and enter the case name or case citation.

**Laws constantly change through legislation, administrative rules and rulings, and case law.** To determine how a law applies to your situation, review the applicable law or laws, administrative rules and rulings, and case law.

Only a lawyer licensed to practice in North Dakota who has agreed to represent you can give you legal advice. Legal advice includes interpreting how the laws and rules apply to your situation.

## Lawyer Resources & Limited Legal Representation

You are not required to hire a lawyer to petition a North Dakota state district court to award title to a motor vehicle. If you decide to represent yourself, you must follow all of the rules, laws and procedures that a lawyer is required to follow.

### Lawyer Resources

If you'd like to learn more about finding a lawyer to represent you, go to [ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help/finding-a-lawyer](https://ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help/finding-a-lawyer). You may also find the following options of interest:

- **Legal Services of North Dakota** is a non-profit organization, providing free legal assistance to North Dakota residents in a variety of matters based on income. Legal Services of North Dakota can also determine whether an applicant meets the income requirements for the Volunteer Lawyers program that offers low-cost legal assistance based on income. The phone number is (800) 634-5263 and the website is [legalassist.org](https://legalassist.org).
- **Dakota Plains Legal Services** is a non-profit legal services organization that provides free legal assistance to low-income individuals, older Americans and veterans. Dakota Plains Legal Services (DPLS) has eight offices and serves communities across South Dakota and North Dakota, including nine tribal nations. DPLS is committed to increasing access to justice with quality legal assistance. Contact information is available on the DPLS webpage of [dpls.org](https://dpls.org).
- **The State Bar Association of North Dakota** provides a lawyer referral service to match paying clients in need of legal services with lawyers. The phone number is (866) 450-9579 and the website is [sband.org](https://sband.org). The cost is \$30.00 for a 30 minute consultation with a lawyer.
- **For a list of all lawyers licensed to practice in North Dakota**, go to the North Dakota Supreme Court website at [ndcourts.gov/Lawyers](https://ndcourts.gov/Lawyers).

## Limited Legal Representation

Lawyers licensed to practice in North Dakota may provide Limited Legal Representation in civil actions. Limited Legal Representation (sometimes called “unbundling”) is a way that a lawyer can help you with part of your case while you handle the rest of your case. You pay for the part of the case the lawyer handled. You and the lawyer must agree in writing to Limited Legal Representation. For example:

- You may want an attorney to give you an expert opinion about your options, or your legal rights and responsibilities;
- You can consult with an attorney to prepare or review your legal documents, but attend hearings yourself;
- You can represent yourself through the whole case, and periodically consult with an attorney who can coach you on the law, procedures and strategy;
- You can do the preparation yourself and hire an attorney just to make the court appearance for you.

## North Dakota Free Legal Answers

This civil legal program is a partnership of the American Bar Association and the State Bar Association of North Dakota.

The purpose of the program is to provide free answers to **specific** civil legal questions to low-moderate income North Dakotans who submit their questions online. Anonymous volunteer lawyers answer the question, but can't represent the individual asking the question.

The self-represented individual can go to [nd.freelegalanswers.org](https://nd.freelegalanswers.org) for information about the program, the online application, and, if the individual qualifies, ask their civil legal question.

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## Section Two: The Petition Process in North Dakota State District Court

**Caution!**

**If a legal entity, such as a business, a corporation, or a limited liability company, will be awarded title to the motor vehicle if the petition is granted,**

**Stop! You Must Be Represented by a Lawyer!**

[Consult a lawyer](#) licensed to practice in North Dakota. Non-lawyers **can't** represent legal entities in North Dakota state district court. Documents signed by non-lawyer agents of a legal entity are considered void. (See [Wetzel v. Schlenvogt](#), 2005 ND 190; and [State ex rel. Department of Labor v. Riemers](#), 2008 ND 191.)

### Step One: Gather Your Documentation

**Gather your documentation to include as exhibits to your petition.**

At minimum, you must prove the following to the North Dakota state district court:

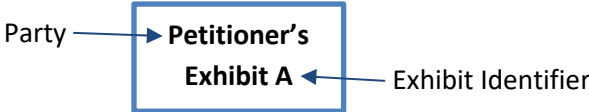
- Your ownership of the motor vehicle; **and**
- The steps you took to get title to the motor vehicle.

You make all decisions about how to prove your ownership of the motor vehicle and how to prove the steps you took to get title before bringing your petition.

The North Dakota Legal Self Help can't advise you. If you need assistance, consult a lawyer licensed to practice in North Dakota who can agree to represent you.

**Make a copy of your documentation and type or write an exhibit identifier on each copy.**

For example, Exhibit A, Exhibit B, Exhibit C. When you refer to your documentation in your petition document, include the name you gave the Exhibit.



Make copies of your marked exhibits to serve on each Respondent in Step Three.



## Step Two: Create your Legal Documents

### Determine the Respondent(s):

The Respondent (or Respondents) is the person (or persons) you're asking the court to order to do something.

You decide who to list as Respondent(s) on the documents. The North Dakota Legal Self Help Center can't advise you.

### Prepare the Summons:

A summons directs the Respondent (or Respondents) to answer the petition within a certain amount of time. The summons notifies the Respondent (or Respondents) that a default judgment will be taken against them if the Respondent (or Respondents) doesn't answer.

An example of a summons is found at the end of this Informational Guide. Instructions for preparing a summons are included with the example.

Leave the "case number" blank. If your completed documents are accepted for filing by the clerk of district court, the clerk assigns a case number. (See Step Four)

### Create the Petition to Award Title to a Vehicle:

A petition is a written request for an order granting the relief the Petitioner is seeking. The petition describes in short, plain statements that the Plaintiff is entitled to relief, and includes the request, or requests, for relief.

At minimum, the petition must include the following:

- Statements of subject matter jurisdiction of the state district court and personal jurisdiction of the state district court over the persons named in the petition.
  - **Subject matter jurisdiction:** The specific law(s) that relate to the subject of the petition that give the state district court authority to hear and decide the petition.
  - **Personal jurisdiction:** How the state district court has authority over each of the persons named as Petitioner and Respondent(s) in the petition. (See [Rule 4 of the North Dakota Rules of Civil Procedure](#).)
- Statement of why the North Dakota county is the proper venue for filing the petition.

- Statements of the reasons you’re bringing the petition, how you own the motor vehicle, the steps you took to get title before bringing the petition, and why the state district court should award you title to the motor vehicle.
  - Include references to your documentation by using the exhibit letters you assigned when you marked your exhibits in Step One.
- Requests for relief, also called demands for relief.
  - Tell the court what you want the court to do.
- Dated and signed by you, the Petitioner.
  - Directly following your signature, write or type your printed name, address, phone number, and email address.
  - If your mailing and street addresses are different, include both.

You may find the following General-Use form useful as a starting point for creating your petition. The general-use form is available in the “District Court Civil” section of [ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help](https://ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help).

- Caption and Signature (Petition) Form

A formatting example of a petition to award title to a vehicle is found at the end of this Informational Guide. The example petition is included **only** as a formatting example. The North Dakota Legal Self Help Center doesn’t guarantee or certify its accuracy or legal sufficiency. **Use at your own risk.**

**Make Copies of the Completed Documents:**

Make a copy of the completed summons and petition for each Respondent you listed in your summons and petition.

Make an additional copy of the completed summons and petition for your records.

You must arrange to serve the copy of the summons and petition on each Respondent in Step Three.

### **Step Three: Arrange to Serve Copies of the Petition Documents on Each Respondent**

Each Respondent you listed in your summons and petition must be served with one copy of the following completed documents:

- Summons
- Petition
- Exhibits (if any)

You must provide proof of service for each Respondent to the state district court.

Proof of service is a completed, dated and signed certificate of service, affidavit of service or declaration of service from the person who served the documents.

**If you don't provide proof of service to the state district court, the court won't act on your petition.**

You file proof of service in Step Four.

For instructions and declaration of service forms for serving a summons and petition to start a civil action go to [ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help/service-in-a-civil-action](https://ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help/service-in-a-civil-action). Carefully review the "Service to Start a District Court Civil Action" section.

#### **If you're Unable to Locate a Respondent for Service:**

If you, after making diligent efforts to locate a Respondent for service of the summons and petition, are unable to locate the Respondent, service by publication may be available.

Service by publication **isn't** allowed in every type of court case.

For information about the requirements and process for service by publication to start a civil action, go to [ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help/service-in-a-civil-action](https://ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help/service-in-a-civil-action). Carefully review the service by publication information in the "Service to Start a District Court Civil Action" section.

#### **Respondents Have 21 Days from Service to Respond to the Petition:**

Each Respondent has 21 days from the date they were served the copy of the summons, petition and exhibits (if any) to respond to or "answer" the petition in writing. An answer is a written response by a Respondent to your petition to award title to a motor vehicle.

## Step Four: File the Original Petition Documents with the Clerk of District Court

\*\*\*Filing a document **isn't** the same as serving a document.

**Filing doesn't meet the requirements of service.** Proof of service of the document(s) must be filed with the court.\*\*\*

Contact information for clerks of court by county is available at [ndcourts.gov/court-locations](https://ndcourts.gov/court-locations).

**The originals of the following completed documents are filed with the clerk of district court:**

- Summons
- Petition
- Exhibits (if any)
- Proof of Service on Each Respondent

If the clerk of district court accepts your documents for filing, the clerk assigns a case number.

**You're required to pay an \$80.00 filing fee.**

Forms and instructions to ask the court to waive the \$80.00 filing fee are available at [ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help/fee-waiver](https://ndcourts.gov/legal-self-help/fee-waiver).

## Step Five: After the Petition Documents are Filed

After the petition documents are filed, the case is assigned to a judge. The judge reviews the documents filed in the case and makes decisions.

**The Judge May Require You to Provide Additional Information:**

After reviewing the documents you filed, the judge may require you to provide additional information before the court will act on your petition. It's up to you to follow up on anything the court requires you to do.

**The Judge May Decide your Petition Based Only on the Documents Filed:**

After reviewing the documents you and any Respondents filed, the judge may grant or deny your petition without holding a hearing.

**The Judge May Decide to Hold a Hearing:**

After reviewing the documents you and any Respondents filed, the judge may decide to hold a hearing before deciding whether to grant or deny your petition.

If the judge decides to hold a hearing, the court notifies you in writing of the date, time and location of the hearing. The hearing may be in-person at a courthouse, or may be held remotely by electronic means.

At the hearing, you, the Petitioner, must prove the information you provided in your petition.

Each Respondent may present evidence to disprove the information you provided in your petition.

### **Caution!**

**Preparing for a hearing is often a complex and confusing process.** You're held to the same requirements and responsibilities as a lawyer, even if you don't understand the rules or procedures. **You need to conduct additional research to prepare.**

At minimum, review and research the laws and rules listed in this Informational Guide. You use the North Dakota Rules of Evidence, in particular, to present your evidence and object to each Respondent's evidence.

Review pre-trial and trial guidebooks for self-represented litigants and lawyers. Your local public or academic library may have resources available.

#### **If Your Petition is Granted:**

If the judge decides you proved your ownership of the motor vehicle and that the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) should award you title to the motor vehicle, the judge dates and signs an order or judgment to that effect.

#### **If Your Petition is Dismissed:**

Review the order dismissing your petition.

If your petition is dismissed **with** prejudice, you **can't** re-file the petition.

If your petition is dismissed **without** prejudice, you **may** re-file the petition at a later date.

#### **Examples of the documents listed below are found on the following pages:**

- **An example of a summons for a petition and instructions for preparing a summons.**
- **A formatting example of a petition to award title to a motor vehicle.**
- **A formatting example of an order awarding title to a motor vehicle.**

State of North Dakota

In District Court

County of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Judicial District

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Petitioner,)

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

vs

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Summons

Respondent(s).)

The State of North Dakota to the Above Named Respondent(s):

**You Are Hereby Summoned** and required to appear and defend against the Petition in this action, which is herewith served upon you, by serving upon the undersigned an Answer or other proper response within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons and Petition upon you, exclusive of the day of service.

If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_, Petitioner  
(Signature of Petitioner)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed Name of Petitioner)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

City of \_\_\_\_\_, North Dakota \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Instructions for Summons (Petition) – Civil Action

North Dakota Legal Self Help Center Staff and Court employees can't help you fill out forms. If you're unsure how to proceed, [consult a lawyer](#).

Center forms aren't official court forms and courts aren't required to accept them. There's no guarantee that all judges and courts will accept forms available through the Center.

Don't include this instruction sheet when you serve or file the completed form.

The "District Court Civil" section of the [ND Legal Self Help Center webpage](#) has additional information and resources.

A summons directs the Respondent to answer the petition within 21 days after that date the Respondent is served. The summons notifies the Respondent that a default judgment may be taken against them if the Respondent doesn't answer.

- Fill in the name of the County in North Dakota where the Petitioner intends to file the civil action.
- Fill in the name of the Judicial District in North Dakota where the Petitioner intends to file the civil action. (The County is within the Judicial District.) County and Judicial District information and maps are available at [ndcourts.gov/court-locations](http://ndcourts.gov/court-locations).
- Fill in the case number, if known. Leave blank if unknown.
- Fill in the full, legal name of the Petitioner on the Petitioner line. There can be more than one Petitioner.
- Fill in each Respondent's full, legal name on the Respondent line. There can be more than one Respondent.
- Sign and date the summons.
- A copy of the petition must be served with the summons.

**Don't include this instruction sheet when you serve or file the completed form.**

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***Use at your own risk.\*\*\****

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
COUNTY OF XXXX

IN DISTRICT COURT  
XXXX XXXXX JUDICIAL DISTRICT

XXXXXX Company	)	
	)	Civil No. 0X-2014-CV-00XXX
PETITIONER,	)	
vs	)	
	)	PETITION FOR ORDER
Cody XXXXX	)	AWARDING TITLE TO VEHICLE
RESPONDENT.	)	
	)	

Petitioner, XXXXX Company, by and through their attorney Lawrence XXXXX, and pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 39-05-20 and N.D. Admin. Code §37-12-04-01, respectfully shows the Court as follows:

1. Kevin XXXXX owned a 2003 XXXXX, VIN:XXXXX, and sold it to Cody XXXXX. The title to the vehicle was never changed to Cody XXXXX and filed with the ND Department of Transportation. The Motor Vehicle Division still has on record that the vehicle is owned by Kevin XXXXX. See attached exhibit 1, vehicle title information.
2. Petitioner insured subject vehicle for the new owner, Cody XXXXX. The vehicle was in a motor vehicle accident on XX/XX/2013. Petitioner paid Cody XXXXX for damages to the vehicle. See attached exhibit 2, MVA report.
3. Kevin XXXXX gave all the paperwork for the van to Cody XXXXX when he sold the vehicle. See attached exhibit 3, phone call from Kevin XXXXX.
4. Cody XXXXX has never registered the change in title with ND Department of Transportation and has not responded to correspondence requesting him to do so. See attached exhibit 4, correspondence to Cody XXXXX.

**This example is provided for general formatting purposes only. Use at your own risk. The ND Legal Self Help Center DOESN'T endorse, warrant, or accept responsibility for the content or uses of this formatting example. As a self-represented individual, you must determine the laws that apply to your civil action, create the content of your legal documents, and determine if your documents are legally sufficient.**



5. Cody XXXXX has signed a ND Secure Power of Attorney appointing Petitioner as power of attorney to sign all papers and documents required to secure the title of the vehicle. See attached exhibit 5, Secure Power of Attorney.

6. XXXXX Credit Union has released the bank lien on the current title registration of Kevin XXXXX. See attached exhibit 6, Release of Lien by Legal Owner.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner prays as follows:

1. The Court, pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 39-05-20 and N.D. Admin. Code §37-12-04-01, issues an Order Awarding Title Ownership to Petitioner to obtain a Salvage Title on the subject vehicle.

Dated this XX day of XXXXX, 2014.

By: Lawrence XXXXX  
Lawrence XXXXX

XXXXX, XXXXX & XXXXX  
Attorneys for Petitioner  
P.O. Box XXXXX  
XXXXX, ND 58XXX  
Telephone: (701) XXX-XXXX  
[xxxxx@xxxxx.com](mailto:xxxxx@xxxxx.com)

**This example is provided for general formatting purposes only. Use at your own risk. The ND Legal Self Help Center DOESN'T endorse, warrant, or accept responsibility for the content or uses of this formatting example. As a self-represented individual, you must determine the laws that apply to your civil action, create the content of your legal documents, and determine if your documents are legally sufficient.**

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
COUNTY OF XXXX

IN DISTRICT COURT  
XXXX XXXXX JUDICIAL DISTRICT

XXXXX Company	)	Civil No. 0X-2014-CV-00XXX
	)	
PETITIONER,	)	
vs	)	
	)	ORDER AWARDING TITLE TO VEHICLE
Cody XXXXX	)	
	)	
RESPONDENT.	)	
	)	

Upon reviewing the Petition for Order Awarding Title Ownership and the attached documents, the Court makes the following:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Kevin XXXXX owned a 2003 XXXXX, VIN:XXXXX, and sold it to Cody XXXXX. The title to the vehicle was never changed to Cody XXXXX and filed with the ND Department of Transportation. The Motor Vehicle Division has on record that the vehicle is owned by Kevin XXXXX.
2. Petitioner insured the subject vehicle for the new owner, Cody XXXXX. The vehicle was in a motor vehicle accident on XX/XX/2013. Petitioner paid Cody XXXXX for damages to the vehicle.
3. Kevin XXXXX gave all the paperwork for the van to Cody XXXXX when he sold the vehicle.
4. Cody XXXXX never registered the change in title with ND Department of Transportation and has not responded to correspondence requesting him to do so.
5. Cody XXXXX signed a ND Secure Power of Attorney appointing Petitioner as power of attorney to sign all papers and documents required to secure the title of the vehicle.

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6. XXXXX Credit Union released the bank lien on the current title registration of Kevin  
XXXXX.

**THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Title Ownership of the subject vehicle shall be amended to reflect Petitioner as the title  
owner to obtain a salvage title.

Dated this XX day of XXXXX, 2014.

By: Judge of District Court  
Judge of District Court

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