

Affidavit of Vessel Ownership

This affidavit may be used when an applicant for Vessel Registration/Title cannot obtain a Bill of Sale or other proof of ownership from the owner of record and owner of record has not reported the vessel sold; OR when a paper Title exists and applicant does not have the transferred title and is unable to obtain same; OR when applicant is unable to obtain release of lien information; OR when owner of record has reported the boat sold or there is no owner of record for a used boat, and applicant cannot obtain any bill of sale.

VESSEL INFORMATION														THIS VESSEL IS: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Used					
GA REGISTRATION NUMBER (EX. GA1234ZZ)							EXPIRATION DATE							BOAT MANUFACTURER				YEAR BUILT	
GA							M ____ D ____ Y ____												
VESSEL OWNER														<input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Business					
LAST					FIRST					MI		DRIVERS LICENSE #				DL State			
BUSINESS NAME (only if business registration - place contact person above)								SSN (or FEIN if a business)				DATE OF BIRTH							
												M ____ D ____ Y							
STREET or PO BOX							CITY				STATE		ZIP						
HOME PHONE					CELL PHONE					BUSINESS PHONE									
(____) ____ - ____					(____) ____ - ____					(____) ____ - ____									
EMAIL ADDRESS								TEXT NUMBER (optional)											
								(____) ____ - ____											
CO-OWNER(s):																			
LAST NAME					FIRST NAME					MI		DATE OF BIRTH							
												M ____ D ____ Y							
												M ____ D ____ Y							
VESSEL OBTAINED FROM																			
LAST					FIRST					MI		DATE OF PURCHASE				HOME PHONE			
												M ____ D ____ Y				(____) ____ - ____			
STREET or PO BOX							CITY				STATE		ZIP		STATE PURCHASED FROM				

I obtained the vessel by means of: (purchase, gift, etc.) _____

I was not given a Bill of Sale because: _____

If printed Title exists, I was not given transferred Title because: _____

If lien, I was unable to provide lien release because: _____

Applicant must read instructions on back, complete all listed steps, and submit required documents with this affidavit.

I do hereby declare that I am the legal owner of the vessel described above and that the statements made by me in this affidavit or in any documents attached thereto and in any vessel registration applications that I submit for this vessel are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further attest that I am not in possession of a Bill of Sale or Title for this vessel, and do not possess (or have submitted to DNR) any previous owners' original Vessel Registration cards. I am therefore completing this Affidavit of Ownership in the absence of required ownership documents in order to obtain a Georgia vessel registration in my name.

Vessel Owner's Signature Date

(Vessel Co-Owner's Signature) Date

Sworn to and subscribed before me this ____ day of _____, 20____.

Notary Public Signature Commission Expires: _____

Space for Seal

Instructions:

This affidavit may be used when an applicant for Vessel Registration/Title cannot obtain a Bill of Sale or other proof of ownership from owner of record and owner of record has not reported the vessel sold; OR when a paper Title exists and applicant does not have the transferred title and is unable to obtain same; OR when applicant is unable to obtain release of lien information; OR when owner of record has reported the boat sold or there is no owner of record for a used boat, and applicant cannot obtain any bill of sale.

The applicant(s) may only use this affidavit form after taking the following steps to obtain the required proof of ownership from owner of record, or for release of lien. All efforts to obtain required documents including USPS receipts should be recorded and / or saved and provided to GaDNR.

- 1. Attempt to obtain bill of sale, transferred title (paper title exists), or other proof of ownership from owner of record, or lien release from lien holder.** If obtained, send the documents to GaDNR.
- 2. For Bill of Sale only – owner of record contacted GADNR and reported the boat sold or the boat has never been registered, and applicant cannot obtain any bill of sale.** Complete the “Affidavit of Vessel Ownership” form on reverse side and have notarized. Send the completed form and any documents showing proof of ownership / how the boat was obtained.
- 3. Attempt contact with owner of record and lienholder (if any) and provide documentation. This step should be initiated within 10 days of payment for boat registration.**

- A. If a Georgia registered / titled boat: Send a certified letter with return receipt requested by USPS to the owner of record at their last known address according to GaDNR records to request a bill of sale or transferred Certificate of Title (if a paper copy exists). Also request that the owner of record contact GaDNR and report the boat sold. Use the Model Letter attached to this form for this purpose. Make copies before mailing and save USPS documentation to submit to GaDNR.
- B. Boat registered / titled in another state: contact the appropriate agency to determine the owner of record and mailing address. Send a certified letter with return receipt requested by USPS to owner of record at their last known address to request a bill of sale or transferred Certificate of Title (if a paper copy exists). Use the Model Letter attached to this form for this purpose. Make copies before mailing and save USPS documentation. Provide information on how the address was obtained.
- C. If there is a lienholder: Send a certified letter with return receipt requested by USPS to the lienholder to request a release of interest. Use the Model Letter attached to this form for this purpose. Make a copy before mailing and save USPS documentation.

If required documents are obtained (proof of ownership, bill of sale, transferred title, or lien release), upload or send documents to GaDNR. Make sure boat information and applicant name / other identifiers are sent with documents.

- 4. If unable to obtain proof of ownership, bill of sale or title (if paper copy exists) or unable to provide lien release after using procedures in step 3 above.**
 - A. Complete the “Affidavit of Vessel Ownership” form on reverse side and have notarized.
 - B. Provide copy of USPS certified letter envelope mailed to the owner of record or lienholder (if applicable) showing post office attempted delivery; or provide copy of the green post office return receipt showing the signature of the owner of record or lienholder (if applicable) and the date the letter was signed for by recipient to verify that the letter was mailed, and any other documentation showing efforts to make contact and obtain a bill of sale or title or lien release from the owner of record / lienholder. If a different address was used than shown in state records, provide an explanation of why that address was used. Provide all responses if any received from the owner of record showing why they will not provide a bill of sale or title, or why a lien release cannot be obtained.
 - C. If the watercraft is valued over \$5,000 according to current Blue Book or NADA Guide, the applicant must post a bond equal to the value of the boat plus 20%. After one year, the applicant can request the bond be released. Provide copy of certificate of bond and the form “Surety Bond for Registration / Title.”
 - D. Send the following: 1. “Affidavit of Vessel Ownership” form, and 2. all documents and information to GaDNR listed in B. and C. above, and 3. certificate of bond and “Surety Bond for Registration / Title” form (if applicable) for GaDNR review. The affidavit and all information should be sent to GaDNR within 60 days of initial payment for boat registration.

**Mail this letter by certified mail return receipt requested to the owner of record listed in the state's official records where the vessel is registered or titled, and to any lien holders listed.*

Date: _____

(Print Owner of Record or Lienholder's name / address)

Dear _____:

I am in possession of the following vessel, and the listed state shows you are the owner of record or lienholder.

Make of Vessel: _____ Model Year: _____

State Registration #: _____ Hull ID Number (typically 12 digits): _____

Length: _____ feet _____ inches From Official Records of this State: _____

I acquired the boat by / from: _____

The State of Georgia requires that I submit a properly executed Certificate of Title or Bill of Sale from you prior to issuing a Registration / Title in my name. If the vessel was titled and you have a paper title, would you please sign the boat title in the "seller" block and send it to me as soon as possible.

If a paper title was not issued or if title was issued and you no longer have the title, would you please sign the statement below my address at the bottom of this letter stating that you no longer have any ownership interest in the vessel. Please return this as soon as possible. By law, owners of GA registered vessels must inform GADNR of sale, transfer, or if they no longer have the boat within 15 days (you may log into your account at GoOutdoorsGeorgia.com to report the boat sold, or call 706-664-0037 anytime 24 hours / 7 days a week, press 1 to indicate you want to report a change in boat ownership, and follow the automated process).

Should you retain any ownership interest in the vessel, please return this letter marked as such, and inform GADNR, PO Box 934943, Atlanta, Georgia 31193-4943 within 45 days from the date of this letter to ensure that your ownership is honored appropriately. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely, *(Print Name and Address of Sender)*

Name _____ Signature: _____ Initials: _____

Initial all that apply:

_____ I no longer have ownership interest in the vessel described above.

_____ A printed title in my name existed, but I no longer have it to transfer.

_____ I have attached a transferred title and / or bill of sale.

_____ I retain an ownership interest in the vessel described above.

O.C.G.A. 16-10-20: A person who knowingly and willingly makes a false, fictitious or fraudulent statement...in any matter within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of state government...shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not more than \$1000 or by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than five years, or both.