

## Express Terms

### Title 13, Division 1, Chapter 1

#### Article 3. Vehicle Registration and Titling

##### **§ 153.00. Definitions.**

(a) "Business documents" means a [begin strikethrough] Lienholder's license or charter by state or federal banking authorities to loan money for the purchase of a vehicle and proof of authority to conduct auto loan business in California [end strikethrough] [begin underline] record or records from a state or local public agency, an agency of another state government, or a federal government agency indicating current authority to conduct business involving auto loans. [end underline]

(b) "Designated employee" means any employee who has been identified by an Electronic Lien and Title Program participant.

(c) "Electronic title" means the electronic data file created by the department and transmitted to a Lienholder via their Service Provider in lieu of a certificate of ownership as described in Vehicle Code section 4451.

(d) "Lienholder" means a legal owner as defined in Vehicle Code section 370.

[begin underline] (1) "Direct Lienholder" means a Lienholder that loans money to borrowers for vehicle purchases.

(2) "Indirect Lienholder" means a Lienholder that transacts in vehicle loans but does not loan money to borrowers for vehicle purchases. [end underline]

(e) "Title information" means the contents of certificate of ownership as described in Vehicle Code section 4451.

(f) "Service Provider" means the person or entity [begin strikethrough] designated by a Lienholder to act on its behalf to send, receive, store, and convert electronic titles [end strikethrough] [begin underline] permitted to send, receive, store, or convert electronic titles on behalf of a Lienholder under this article. [end underline]

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Sections 370, 4450.5 and 4451, Vehicle Code.

##### **§ 153.02. Service Provider's Permit.**

(a) A Service Provider may act on behalf of Lienholders if the Service Provider has applied for and has been issued a Service Provider's Permit by the department.

(b) A Service Provider shall not act on behalf of any Lienholder if their Service ~~Provider permit~~ Provider's Permit is not currently valid.

(c) A Service Provider shall not send any customer data to the department prior to successful transmission of a test file that validates connectivity has been established with the department.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 4450.5, Vehicle Code.

#### **§ 153.04. Service Provider's Permit Application.**

(a) An applicant requesting to act on behalf of any Lienholder shall submit the following to the department:

(1) A completed and signed Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Program Service Provider Application form, REG 670 ~~[begin strikethrough] (NEW 1/2019)~~ [begin underline] (Rev. 11/2025), [end underline] which is hereby incorporated by reference;

(2) Proof of registration and "Active" status with the California Secretary of State;

(3) A completed and signed Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Program Information Security and Disclosure Statement Service Provider/Lienholder Firm form, REG 678 (NEW 1/2019), which is hereby incorporated by reference; and

(4) For each of their designated employees, a completed and signed Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Program Information Security and Disclosure Statement Service Provider/Lienholder Employee form, REG 677 (NEW 1/2019), which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Sections 1808.47 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code.

#### **§ 153.06. Review of Service Provider's Application.**

(a) The department shall review the application for a Service Provider's ~~permit~~ Permit and notify the Service Provider within 30 days of receipt of the application whether it contains all of the required information.

(b) The department shall approve an application and issue an Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Service Provider Permit, form REG 672 [begin strikethrough] ~~(NEW 1/2019)~~ [end strikethrough][begin underline] (Rev. 11/2025) [end underline] which is hereby incorporated by reference, after determining that the application is complete.

[begin underline] (c) Notwithstanding subsection (b), the department may refuse to approve an Application for an Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Service Provider's Permit in accordance with Section 153.12. [end underline]

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 4450.5, Vehicle Code.

#### **§ 153.08. Term of Service Provider's Permit.**

(a) Every Service Provider's [begin strikethrough] ~~permit~~ [end strikethrough][begin underline] Permit [end underline] issued under this article shall be valid for a period of five years from midnight of the last day of the month of issuance unless sooner revoked or surrendered. Renewal of the [begin strikethrough] ~~permit~~ [end strikethrough][begin underline] Permit [end underline] for the ensuing term may be obtained by the Service Provider to whom the [begin strikethrough] ~~permit~~ [end strikethrough][begin underline] Permit [end underline] was issued upon application to and approval by the department.

(b) Any changes to the Service Provider's [begin strikethrough] ~~permit~~ [end strikethrough][begin underline] Permit [end underline] required by the Service Provider during the term of the [begin strikethrough] ~~permit~~ [end strikethrough][begin underline] Permit [end underline] shall be requested by submitting a completed and signed Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Program Service Provider Application form, REG 670 [begin strikethrough] ~~(NEW 1/2019)~~ [end strikethrough] to the department.

(c) A Service Provider who intends to withdraw from participating in the department's Electronic Lien and Title [begin strikethrough] ~~program~~ [end strikethrough][begin underline] Program [end underline] shall notify the [begin strikethrough] ~~department's Electronic Lien and Title administrator~~ [end strikethrough][begin underline] Program [end underline] via email at [rodeltgrp@dmv.ca.gov](mailto:rodeltgrp@dmv.ca.gov) at least 30 days prior to the date their [begin strikethrough] ~~permit~~ [end strikethrough][begin underline] Permit [end underline] expires.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 4450.5, Vehicle Code.

#### **§ 153.10. Renewal of Service Provider's Permit.**

(a) ~~[begin strikethrough] The [end strikethrough]~~~~[begin strikethrough] permit [end strikethrough]~~[begin underline] A [end underline] Service Provider whose [begin strikethrough] permit [end strikethrough][begin underline] Service Provider's Permit [end underline] is nearing expiration shall initiate and complete the renewal process.

(b) A renewal applicant shall submit, at least 30 days prior to the ~~[begin strikethrough] permit's [end strikethrough]~~[begin underline] Permit's [end underline] expiration date, the following to the department:

(1) A completed and signed Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Program Service Provider Application, form REG 670 ~~[begin strikethrough] (NEW 1/2019); [end strikethrough]~~

(2) A completed and signed Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Program Information Security and Disclosure Statement Service Provider/Lienholder Firm form, REG 678 ~~[begin strikethrough] (NEW 1/2019); [end strikethrough]~~ and

(3) For each of their designated employees, a completed and signed Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Program Information Security and Disclosure Statement Service Provider/Lienholder Employee form, REG 677 ~~[begin strikethrough] (NEW 1/2019). [end strikethrough]~~

(c) ~~[begin strikethrough] Failure [end strikethrough]~~[begin underline] If a Service Provider fails [end underline] to apply for [begin strikethrough] permit [end strikethrough] renewal [begin underline] of its Service Provider's Permit [end underline] at least 30 days prior to [begin strikethrough] the permit's expiration date will cause an interruption in the Service Provider's ability to conduct data transmissions from the time the permit expires until the renewal application has been reviewed and approved by the department [end strikethrough][begin underline] expiration, the department may require that Service Provider to transfer each of its Lienholders to the Lienholder's preferred replacement Service Provider. [end underline]

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Sections 1808.47 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code.

#### **§ 153.12. Refusal to Approve Application for Service Provider's Permit or to Approve Renewal of Service Provider's Permit.**

(a) The department may refuse to approve an application for a Service Provider's ~~[begin strikethrough] permit [end strikethrough]~~[begin underline] Permit, [end underline] or for the renewal of a Service Provider's ~~permit~~Permit under the following circumstances:

- (1) For an incomplete application;
- (2) For a violation of section 153.02, 153.04, 153.08, 153.10, or 153.18 of Article 3.0; and/or
- (3) For any act or omission of the Service ~~provider~~ Provider or one of its agents, employees, contractors or designees which the department determines ~~constitutes~~ to be fraud.

(4) Because the Service Provider has not resolved the basis for a previous suspension or revocation under Section 153.14.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 4450.5, Vehicle Code.

#### **§ 153.14. Suspension or Revocation of Service Provider's Permit.**

(a) The department shall suspend a Service Provider's ~~permit~~ Permit for any of the following reasons:

- (1) ~~For violating~~ Violating one of the following sections: 153.02, 153.04, 153.08, 153.10, 153.14 or 153.18 of Article 3.0;
- (2) ~~For any~~ Any act or omission of the Service Provider or one of its agents, employees, contractors or designees which the department determines ~~constitutes~~ to be fraud; ~~or~~
- (3) Not having "Active" status with the California Secretary of State; or
- (4) Failure to respond to departmental communications or directives relating to the Electronic Lien and Title Program for more than 30 days.

(b) The department shall revoke a Service Provider's ~~permit~~ Permit for:

- (1) ~~For violating~~ Violating more than one of the following sections: 153.02,

153.04, 153.08, 153.10, [begin underline] 153.14, [end underline] and 153.18 of Article 3.0;

(2) [begin strikethrough] For any [end strikethrough] [begin underline] Any [end underline] act or omission of the Service Provider or one of its agents, employees, contractors or designees which the department determines constitutes an intent to commit fraud; or

(3) For failing to obtain "Active" status with the California Secretary of State within 30 days after receiving notification from the department of this defect; [begin underline] or

(4) Ongoing failure to respond for more than 30 days after suspension of the Permit pursuant to subsection (a)(4).

(c) If the department suspends a Service Provider's Permit, that Service Provider shall:

(1) Be prohibited from providing service to any additional Lienholders while suspended; and

(2) Transfer each of its Lienholders to each Lienholder's preferred replacement Service Provider in accordance with ELT Program directives.

(d) If the Service Provider demands a hearing pursuant to Section 153.16, the requirement of subsection (c)(2) shall be paused pending the outcome of the hearing. [end underline]

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 4450.5, Vehicle Code.

**§ 153.16. Demand for Hearing after Refusal to Approve or Renew, Suspension or Revocation of Service Provider's Permit.**

(a) Upon the department's refusal to approve an application to issue or renew a Service Provider's [begin strikethrough] permit [end strikethrough] [begin underline] Permit [end underline] or upon the suspension or revocation of a Service Provider's [begin strikethrough] permit [end strikethrough] [begin underline] Permit, [end underline] the Service Provider shall be entitled to demand, in writing, a hearing before the director or his or her representative within 60 days after receipt of the notice.

(b) The hearing shall be conducted pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 4450.5, Vehicle Code.

### **§ 153.18. Reinstatement of Service Provider's Permit.**

(a) Upon the suspension of a Service Provider's ~~[begin strikethrough] permit [end strikethrough]~~~~[begin underline] Permit [end underline]~~ by the department, the Service Provider shall cease all transmissions of data ~~[begin strikethrough] until, [end strikethrough]~~~~[begin underline] Once [end underline]~~ the department has verified that the Service Provider has taken appropriate action to correct the issues that caused the suspension, ~~[begin strikethrough] and [end strikethrough]~~ the department ~~[begin strikethrough] has lifted [end strikethrough]~~~~[begin underline] will end [end underline]~~ the suspension ~~[begin underline] and the Service Provider may resume providing service to additional Lienholders. [end underline]~~

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 4450.5, Vehicle Code.

### **§ 153.20. Lienholder's Permit.**

(a) As required by Vehicle Code section 4450.5(a) and section 153.22 below, Lienholder's title information shall be kept in electronic format via the department's Electronic Lien and Title ~~[begin strikethrough] program [end strikethrough]~~~~[begin underline] Program. [end underline]~~

(b) A Lienholder shall not file title information with the department electronically ~~[begin strikethrough] without having applied for a permit [end strikethrough]~~~~[begin underline] unless the Lienholder has applied for and been issued a current Lienholder's Permit authorizing the Lienholder [end underline]~~ to participate in the department's Electronic Lien and Title ~~[begin strikethrough] program and been issued a Lienholder's permit by the department [end strikethrough]~~~~[begin underline] Program. [end underline]~~

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Sections 4450.5, 4451 and 4453, Vehicle Code.

### **§ 153.22. Lienholder's Permit Application.**

(a) ~~[begin strikethrough] A Lienholder [end strikethrough]~~~~[begin underline] In order to apply for a Lienholder's Permit, the applicant [end underline]~~ shall submit the following to the department:

- (1) A completed and signed Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Program Lienholder Application form, REG 671 ~~[begin strikethrough] (NEW 1/2019) [end strikethrough]~~

[end strikethrough][begin underline] (Rev. 11/2025), [end underline] which is hereby incorporated by reference;

(2) A copy of their business documents;

(3) A completed and signed Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Program Information Security and Disclosure Statement Service Provider/Lienholder Firm form, REG 678 [begin strikethrough] ~~(NEW 1/2019)~~; [end strikethrough] and

(4) For each of their designated employees, a completed and signed Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Program Information Security and Disclosure Statement Service Provider/Lienholder Employee form, REG 677 [begin strikethrough] ~~(NEW 1/2019)~~. [end strikethrough]

[begin underline] (b) Any changes to an existing Lienholder's Permit required by the Lienholder during the Permit's term shall be requested by submitting a completed and signed Electronic Lien and Titling (ELT) Program Change Request form, REG 673 (Rev. 11/2025), which is hereby incorporated by reference, along with all the items required by subsection (a).

(c) A Lienholder may apply to change its Service Provider by submitting a REG 671. The Lienholder's current Service Provider shall transfer the Lienholder's electronic titles to the Lienholder's replacement Service Provider upon the department's approval of the Lienholder's application to change its Service Provider. [end underline]

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Sections 1808.47 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code.

#### **§ 153.24. Review of Lienholder's Permit Application.**

(a) The department shall review the application for a Lienholder's [begin strikethrough] permit, [end strikethrough][begin underline] Permit [end underline] and notify the [begin strikethrough] lienholder and their [end strikethrough][begin underline] Lienholder and its [end underline] identified Service Provider [begin underline] of whether the application is complete [end underline] within 30 days of receipt of the application [begin strikethrough], whether it contains all of the required information. [end strikethrough]

(b) The department shall approve an application and issue an Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Lienholder's Permit, form REG 672 F [begin strikethrough] ~~(NEW 1/2019)~~ [end strikethrough][begin underline] (Rev. 11/2025), [end underline] which is hereby incorporated by reference, after determining that the application is complete.



Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 4450.5, Vehicle Code.

#### **§ 153.26. Term of Lienholder's Permit.**

(a) Every ~~[begin strikethrough] Lienholder permit [end strikethrough]~~[begin underline] Lienholder's Permit [end underline] issued under this ~~[begin strikethrough] article [end strikethrough]~~[begin underline] Article [end underline] shall ~~[begin strikethrough] be non-expiring and remain valid until the Lienholder requests to withdraw from the program for one of the reasons listed in section 153.28 below. [end strikethrough]~~[begin underline] unless:

(1) The Lienholder requests to withdraw from the ELT Program; or

(2) The ELT Program suspends or revokes the Lienholder's Permit pursuant to subsection (b). [end underline]

(b) ~~[begin strikethrough] Any changes to the Lienholder's permit required by the Lienholder during the term of the permit shall be requested by submitting an Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Program Change Request form, REG 673 (NEW 1/2019), which is hereby incorporated by reference, to the department. [end strikethrough]~~[begin underline] The ELT Program may suspend a Lienholder's Permit if the Lienholder does not respond to Program communications or directive for more than 30 days. The ELT Program shall send notice of the Permit's suspension to the Lienholder's address of record. The ELT Program may revoke the Permit if the Lienholder remains unresponsive for more than 30 days after the Permit's suspension. If a Lienholder's Permit is revoked, the Lienholder must apply for a new Permit to reinitiate participation in the Program. [end underline]

(c) If a Lienholder's Permit is revoked, the ELT Program may require the Lienholder's Service Provider to convert the Lienholder's titles to paper certificates of ownership. [end underline]

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 4450.5, Vehicle Code.

#### **§ 153.28. Lienholder Withdrawal from the Electronic Lien and Title Program and Conversion of Electronic Titles.**

(a) A Lienholder may withdraw from the ~~[begin strikethrough] Electronic Lien and Title program [end strikethrough]~~[begin underline] ELT Program [end underline] for either of the following reasons:

[Subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) are unchanged.]

(b) A Lienholder requesting to withdraw from the department's ~~[begin strikethrough] Electronic Lien and Title program [end strikethrough]~~[begin

ELT Program shall: ~~submit an Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Program Withdrawal Request form, REG 674 (NEW 1/2019), which is hereby incorporated by reference, to the department.~~

(1) Request that its Service Provider convert all the Lienholder's electronic titles to paper certificates of ownership, and

(2) Submit an Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) Program Withdrawal Request form, REG 674 (Rev. 11/2025).

~~(c) A Lienholder requesting to withdraw from the program shall request the conversion of their titles held in electronic format to paper Certificates of Ownership pursuant to Vehicle Code section 4451 within 30 days after receiving departmental approval to withdraw.~~  
If the Service Provider fails to fulfill the Lienholder's request to convert its titles to paper certificates of ownership made pursuant to subsection (b)(1), the department may require that Service Provider to convert the Lienholder's electronic titles to paper certificates of ownership to facilitate the Lienholder's withdrawal.

(d) The ELT Program shall not approve a Lienholder's REG 674 until the Program verifies that all of the Lienholder's electronic titles have been converted to paper certificates of ownership.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1651 and 4450.5, Vehicle Code. Reference: Sections 4450.5 and 4451, Vehicle Code.