

MICHIGAN VEHICLE CODE (EXCERPT)
Act 300 of 1949

257.257 Altering, forging, or falsifying documents; violation; penalty.

Sec. 257.

(1) A person who commits any of the following acts is guilty of a felony:

(a) Alters with fraudulent intent a certificate of title, registration certificate, or registration plate issued by the department.

(b) Forges or counterfeits a certificate of title, registration certificate, or registration plate purporting to have been issued by the department.

(c) Alters or falsifies with fraudulent intent or forges an assignment upon a certificate of title.

(d) Holds or uses a certificate of title, registration certificate, or registration plate knowing that it has been altered, forged, or falsified.

(e) Knowingly possesses, sells, or offers for sale a stolen, false, or counterfeit certificate of title, registration certificate, registration plate, registration decal, or registration tab.

(f) Fraudulently indicates on a certificate of title that there is no security interest on record for the vehicle.

(g) Forges or counterfeits a letter from the holder of a security interest in a vehicle stating that the security interest has been released.

(2) A person who is convicted of a second violation of this section shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than 2 years or more than 7 years, or by a fine of not less than \$1,500.00 or more than \$7,000.00, or both.

(3) A person who is convicted of a third or subsequent violation of this section shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than 5 years or more than 15 years, or by a fine of not less than \$5,000.00 or more than \$15,000.00, or both.

(4) A person who is convicted of a violation of subsection (1)(f) or (g), in addition to any other penalty, shall pay restitution to the holder of a security interest in the vehicle in the amount of the outstanding lien on the vehicle.

History: 1949, Act 300, Eff. Sept. 23, 1949 ;-- Am. 1992, Act 309, Eff. Mar. 31, 1993 ;-- Am. 2014, Act 289, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015