

761—400.14(321) Transfer of ownership. The following procedures shall apply for all titling and registration purposes:

400.14(1) *Transfer of vehicle owned by two or three persons.*

a. If the names of the owners of a vehicle on the certificate of title or on the manufacturer's certificate of origin are joined by the word "or," as in "John Doe, Jane Doe or Mary Doe," then the signature of any of these owners is sufficient to transfer title or to junk the vehicle.

b. If ownership of a vehicle is stated as a name or names followed by the words "Doing Business As" or the initials "DBA" and another name, only the name of an owner followed by the signature of an authorized representative of an owner is required to transfer title or to junk the vehicle.

EXAMPLE: Ownership is stated as "John Smith and Mary Smith DBA Smith Repair." Jane Doe is an authorized representative of John Smith and Mary Smith. To transfer ownership, Jane Doe may sign as "John Smith and Mary Smith DBA Smith Repair, by Jane Doe," "John Smith and Mary Smith by Jane Doe," or Smith Repair by Jane Doe."

c. In all other cases the signature of each named owner is required.

400.14(2) *Assignment of title to two or three persons.* If a certificate of title or a manufacturer's certificate of origin is assigned to two or three persons with their names joined by the word "or," as in "John Doe, Jane Doe or Mary Doe," then a certificate of title may be issued to any one of these persons, or to any two or all three of these persons with their names joined by the word "or." However, a certificate of title shall only be issued to persons who have signed the application for title.

400.14(3) *Organizational ownership.*

a. When a vehicle is owned by a partnership, corporation, association, governmental unit, or private organization, the signature of its authorized representative is required.

b. When a vehicle is owned by a trust, the signature of each trustee is required, unless otherwise specified in the trust agreement. The signature shall be followed by the words "as trustee." In addition, the title shall be accompanied by a copy of all documents creating or otherwise affecting the trust.

400.14(4) *Death with a will.* When ownership is transferred according to a decedent's will, a certified copy of the court order or the letter of appointment appointing the person assigning the title as executor of the will shall be required.

400.14(5) *Death without a will.* When ownership is transferred from a decedent without a will and there is no administration of the estate, an affidavit of death intestate form signed by the clerk of court shall be required. When ownership is transferred from a decedent without a will but there is an administration of the estate, a copy of the court order or the letter of appointment appointing the person assigning the title as administrator shall be required.

400.14(6) *Power of attorney.* An attorney in fact may act for the owner(s) if the appointment is shown on a power of attorney form. Power of attorney forms are available from the department but other forms may be accepted if they contain all necessary information. The power of attorney form or a certified true copy shall be kept by the county treasurer and attached to the document to which it applies.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 321.20, 321.24, 321.45, 321.47, 321.49, and 321.67.