

vehicles left in garages may be taken into custody by the police department and sold in accordance with the procedures set forth in this section, unless the motor vehicle is reclaimed and garage keeper is paid. The proceeds of the sale shall be applied first to the garage keeper's charges for servicing, storage, or repair, and any surplus proceeds shall be distributed in accordance with subsection (d) of this section. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to impair any lien of a garage keeper under the laws of this State, or the right of a lienholder to foreclose. For the purposes of this subsection "garage keeper" means any operator of a parking place or establishment, motor vehicle storage facility, or establishment for the servicing, repair, or maintenance of motor vehicles.

(f) *Disposition of vehicle to scrap processor or wrecker.*—(1) Any person, firm, corporation, or unit of government upon whose property or in whose possession is found any abandoned motor vehicle, or any person being the owner of a motor vehicle whose title certificate is faulty, lost or destroyed, may apply to the police department of the jurisdiction in which the vehicle is situated for authority to sell, give away or dispose of the vehicle to a scrap processor or wrecker.

(2) The application shall set out the name and address of the applicant, the year, make, model, and serial number of the motor vehicle, if ascertainable, together with any other identifying features, and shall contain a concise statement of the facts surrounding the abandonment, or that the title of the motor vehicle is lost or destroyed, or the reasons for the defect of title. The applicant shall execute an affidavit stating that the facts alleged therein are true and that no material fact has been withheld.

(3) If the police department finds that the application is executed in proper form and shows that the motor vehicle has been abandoned upon the property of the applicant, or if it shows that the motor vehicle is not abandoned but that the applicant appears to be the rightful owner, the police department shall follow the notification procedures set forth in [subsection (c)] subsections (a) and (b) of this section.

(4) If an abandoned motor vehicle is not reclaimed in accordance with [subsection (c)] subsections (a) and (b), the police department shall give the applicant a certificate of authority to sell the motor vehicle to any wrecker or scrap processor for demolition, wrecking, or dismantling. The wrecker or scrap processor shall accept such certificate in lieu of the certificate of title to the motor vehicle.

(5) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, any person, firm, corporation, or unit of government upon whose property or in whose possession any abandoned motor vehicle is found, or any person being the owner of a motor vehicle whose title certificate is faulty, or destroyed may dispose of the motor vehicle to a wrecker or scrap processor without the title and without notification procedures of [subsection (c)] subsections (a) and (b) of this section, if the motor vehicle is over eight years old and has no engine or is otherwise totally inoperable.

(g) *Definitions.*—For the purposes of this section the following shall apply:

(1) "*Police department*" means the Department of Maryland State Police or any police department of a county, city or town and in Baltimore City the agency designated by the board of estimates.