

IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO IT. ACQUISITION OF TITLE DIVESTS ANY OTHER PERSON OF ANY INTEREST IN THE VESSEL.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This subsection presently appears as Article 14B, section 4P(a) of the Code. The only changes made are in style.

(C) NOTICE; APPLICATION FOR TITLE; ISSUANCE OF TITLE; COSTS; REPORT OF SUBSEQUENT DESTRUCTION OR DISPOSITION OF VESSEL; ACQUISITION OF TITLE BY DEPARTMENT. -

(1) IF A VESSEL HAS A BOAT NUMBER OR OTHER MEANS OF IDENTIFYING ITS OWNER, THE PERSON DESIRING TO ACQUIRE TITLE, IF POSSIBLE, SHALL SECURE THE OWNER'S LAST KNOWN ADDRESS, AND THE LIENHOLDER, IF ANY, APPEARING ON THE DEPARTMENT'S RECORDS. HE SHALL NOTIFY THIS OWNER AND THE LIEN HOLDER BY REGISTERED LETTER TO THE LAST KNOWN ADDRESS THAT IF OWNERSHIP IS NOT CLAIMED AND THE VESSEL REMOVED WITHIN 30 DAYS, HE WILL APPLY FOR TITLE TO THE VESSEL IN HIS NAME. IF ANY VESSEL'S OWNER OR LIEN HOLDER CANNOT BE IDENTIFIED OR ADDRESS ASCERTAINED FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S RECORDS, IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO SEND THE LETTER.

(2) THE PERSON DESIRING TO ACQUIRE TITLE ALSO SHALL PLACE A NOTICE IN A PAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION PUBLISHED IN THE COUNTY WHERE THE VESSEL IS LOCATED, DESCRIBING THE VESSEL, ITS LOCATION, AND ANY IDENTIFYING NUMBER. THE PERSON SHALL STATE IN THE NOTICE THAT IF THE VESSEL IS NOT CLAIMED AND REMOVED WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE PUBLICATION DATE OF THE PAPER, HE WILL APPLY FOR TITLE TO THE VESSEL IN HIS NAME.

(3) AT THE END OF THE 30-DAY PERIOD THE PERSON SHALL APPLY TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR TITLE TO THE VESSEL IN HIS NAME ON FORMS THE DEPARTMENT APPROVES ACCOMPANIED BY THE FOLLOWING AFFIDAVITS:

(I) A STATEMENT THE VESSEL APPARENTLY HAS BEEN ABANDONED FOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS;

(II) PROOF THE REGISTERED LETTER WAS MAILED AT LEAST 30 DAYS BEFORE APPLICATION OR A DETAILED EXPLANATION OF THE UNSUCCESSFUL STEPS TAKEN TO IDENTIFY THE OWNER OR LIEN HOLDER AND SECURE HIS ADDRESS; AND

(III) PROOF A NOTICE WAS PRINTED IN A