

## GUIDELINES TO TRANSFER VEHICLES AS SURVIVING SPOUSE

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Amended HB 156, effective March 11, 1996, allows a surviving spouse to obtain ownership, by affidavit, of two (2) automobiles (passenger vehicles) with a **total** appraised value of \$40,000.00 or less. This applies only to those transactions that relate to the date of death of a spouse on or after March 11, 1996.

The Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles has advised that a surviving spouse may opt to transfer one (1) automobile and one (1) pickup truck; or one (1) automobile and one (1) van, such as a Voyager, Astrovan, and Aerostar; or, the surviving spouse may transfer two (2) pickup trucks – three quarter ton or less – if the spouse does not own automobiles.

A surviving spouse **cannot** take ownership of a vehicle, under HB 156, from a company that is incorporated unless the corporation has assigned over ownership. However, a surviving spouse can take ownership of a vehicle from their company, if the company was a sole proprietorship.

Mobile homes, motor homes, travel trailers, 5<sup>th</sup> wheels, motorcycles, and ATV's are not transferred as surviving spouse, under HB 156, and must go through probate proceedings.

Surviving spouse may also obtain ownership, by affidavit, one (1) boat and one (1) outboard motor; or one (1) inboard/outboard boat.

Affidavits may be obtained from any Auto Title office or the Clerk of Courts web page.