Wayne County, Ohio – Watercraft Title Transactions

SCENARIO 1
You are buying a boat or motor.

- A Certificate of Title is required on all boats 14 feet or longer and all watercraft that has permanently affixed means of propulsion, 10 HP motors or greater. Canoes and kayaks are exempt.
- Before purchasing a boat or motor, be sure the seller has the Certificate of Title. The seller is also required to assign the Ohio watercraft registration card to you.
- Additional information on out-of-state boat titles is needed: including year, make, horsepower, whether it is an inboard or outboard motor, and photographs of the model number and the serial number.

SCENARIO 2
You are transferring your watercraft title.

- Your title may be issued by the Clerk of Courts title office in any county, regardless of the location of the boat.

SCENARIO 3
You are selling a boat or motor.

- Do not execute the assignment on the reverse side of the Certificate of Title until a bonafide sale has been made.
- Make certain that the buyer's full name and address is inserted before you sign the assignment. Initials are not acceptable. You must have your signature notarized.
- If you do not have a title for your boat or motor and have owned the boat or motor prior to October 10, 1963, your Clerk of Courts title office may issue a title to you based on your registration or sworn statement.

SCENARIO 4
You need a Hull Identification Number.

- Federal boating acts require all boats manufactured after November 1972 to to show a hull identification number or serial number of not less than 12 characters.
- If you have a 1973 or newer model boat, compare the hull identification number with the number on your title. If they differ, make a pencil tracing of the number (or rubbing) for your Clerk of Courts title office to make a correction.

SCENARIO 5
There is no manufacturer's hull number, or the manufacturer's serial number has been removed.

- A hull number must be assigned and affixed to the boat or motor before a Certificate of Title can be issued.
- Application for a serial number is made to the Division of Watercraft. Forms may be obtained at a Clerk of Courts title office.

SCENARIO 6
You need to renew or apply for a new watercraft registration after the title has been processed in your name, you must present your boat title to the title office.