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Sour Taste Over Lemon Laws For Non-Traditional Motor Vehicle Owners

By Earl Powers

Do you have a motor home, all-terrain vehicle, tractor, motorcycle or any other motorized

transportation with less than four wheels? Did you buy it brand new only to find out it is a dud, something like a car lemon? Your rights as a consumer when it comes to the lemon law and its interpretation depends on which state you live in. Nope, it is not the state of denial, which is what you would like to live in after spending all that money, only to get a dud vehicle!

Let's look at the lemon law Florida has passed through legislature. Their lemon law only covers new vehicles bought or leased. The vehicle use must be for private or personal use and does not include any vehicles ridden off road or any vehicles less than four wheels. And the lemon law California has does not take into account the off-road vehicles and other modes of transportation other than a new vehicle with four wheels. However, motor home chassis are covered, but not the body.

If you live in Texas, however, you can enjoy one of the most liberal lemon laws in the United States. Recreational modes of transportation like three or four wheelers, motorcycles, motor homes, cars, trucks and vans are all covered as long as they are new vehicles. No used car lemons or the like are considered. Other states are a bit more liberal in their interpretation of these laws. New Hampshire is one of them as is New Mexico and North Carolina.

Other states typically cover new cars, small trucks and vans in their car lemon law. Some are conditional when it comes to recreational vehicles, motorcycles and motor homes. For instance, the state of Illinois covers recreational vehicles under their lemon law but not motorcycles. In New Jersey however, they do cover motorcycles and even motor homes. Ohio covers motorcycles as does Washington.

Depending on where you live, you will probably want to consult with one or two lemon law attorneys to interpret the law for you. Because some states just mention any motorized mode of transportation that you use for family or personal use that leaves the field wide open to speculation. What is interpreted as a motorized vehicle? Each state will probably have a different answer. Virginia, Wyoming, Oregon, Maine and Minnesota have more general interpretations than most.

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You could be a retiree with a brand new motor home, ready to hit the open roads of the United States. Or you could be a farmer or rancher that used tractors and recreational vehicles like a four-wheeler for farm work. Maybe you are a motorcycle rider trying to save on gas or you ride a moped around your college town. No matter what the circumstance, brush up on the lemon laws your state has or consult with lemon law lawyers if you are having difficulties with your new mode of transportation. Remember your rights will vary depending on where you reside.

Earl Powers, US Lawyer and Lemon Vehicle expert at Aquest Group LLC (

<http://www.lemon-vehicle.com>

) publishes other articles related to Lemon Vehicle at

<http://www.the-lemon-law.com>

and

<http://www.free-car-lemon-check.com>

Lemon Laws Protect The Consumer

By Keith George

Lemon laws are United States' Laws designed to protect the rights of consumers. They are usually used for vehicles but apply to all commercial articles. In this article we will concentrate on Lemon Laws as applicable to vehicles. A lemon is a term used to describe a new vehicle that needs excessive repair even though it is new. It has to meet the following criteria:

Age. Usually for vehicles less than a year old.

Warranty. Usually within the warranty period. In some states the warranty period is not recognized and the cases may be entertained even if the vehicle is out of warranty period depending upon the discretion of the court. The rights of consumers by virtue of Lemon laws may exceed the warranties given by the manufacturer.

Repairs. The vehicle needs frequent identical repair, usually at least 4 times. The repairs should be major repairs that affect the operation, safety and value of the vehicle.

Down Time of the Vehicle. If the vehicle is down for more than 30 days in a year due to defect then it comes under the ambit of lemon laws. The 30 days need not be consecutive days.

The lemon laws cover only new vehicles and not used vehicles. The vehicle owners should note few points that help in proving the case in court.

Repair Order. A repair order should be obtained for every repair visit. The repair order should detail

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date, problem or diagnosis and attempted repair on the vehicle.

Purchase documents. Purchase documents like contracts, warranties, bills etc should be preserved.

Lemon Law Notice. A lemon law notice should be served to the manufacturer for a refund or a replacement vehicle. The manufacturer should respond within 30 days. For normal wear and tear in the lemon vehicle there should be no deduction from the manufacturer.

Manufacturer's Arbitration Program. Some states make it mandatory to use the manufacturer's arbitration program if available before suing them in court.

Attorney. Utilize the services of an attorney as they are aware of the details of the laws. Many lawyers work on contingency basis, which means that you pay the lawyer if you win the case. Usually the courts award double the cost of the vehicle plus the cost of litigation if you win. Most such litigations are settled outside the court, so it is wise to hire a competent lawyer who can negotiate to your benefit.

As with most laws, Lemon laws vary from state to state, however the principle remains the same, which is protection of the consumer's interest.

Keith George always writes about valuable news & reviews. A related resource is

<http://lemon-laws-inflorida.info/>

Further information can be found at

<http://more-on-health.info/>



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