

**Motor Vehicles — Automobiles — Registration — Verification.**

It is necessary that an application for registration of a motor vehicle be sworn to before a notary or other officer authorized to administer oaths.

December 24, 1927.

Austin B. Middleton, Esq.,  
Registrar of Motor Vehicles,  
Deer Lodge, Montana.

My dear Mr. Middleton:

You have requested my opinion whether the word "verify," as used in section 1 of chapter 123, laws of 1927, means that applications for registration of motor vehicles must be sworn to before a notary or other officer authorized to administer oaths.

Section 1 of chapter 123, laws of 1927, provides as follows:

"That in addition to any information required by section 1759 of the Revised Codes of Montana of 1921, every owner of a motor vehicle operated or driven upon the public highway of this state, shall, for each motor vehicle owned, except as otherwise expressly provided, in his verified application for the registration thereof on a blank to be furnished by the registrar of motor vehicles, include the following information: \* \* \* "

And we further find that under the provisions of section 1759, R. C. M. 1921, the owner of an automobile is also required to present a verified application for registration. "Verify," as used in law, is defined by Funk & Wagnalls' New Standard Dictionary as to "affirm under oath," and words and phrases used in the codes or other statutes of Montana are construed according to the context and approved usage of the language. (Section 15, R. C. M. 1921.)

The word "verified" having been embodied in the statute, it is presumed to have been used in its legal sense, and it is therefore my opinion that an application for registration of a motor vehicle must be sworn to before a notary or other officer authorized to administer oaths.

Very truly yours,

L. A. FOOT,  
Attorney General.