



FORT SILL LEGAL ASSISTANCE



OKLAHOMA LEMON LAW

What is a Lemon?

Laws protecting individuals who purchase defective vehicles are typically called “Lemon Laws.” If your new vehicle has a defect that is covered by a warranty and this defect substantially impairs both the use and value of the vehicle, your vehicle may be considered defective. This defect, however, cannot have been caused by abuse, neglect (e.g., failing to put oil in the vehicle), or after-market modifications or alterations.

Oklahoma’s Lemon Law:

Oklahoma’s Lemon Law protects purchasers of defective new vehicles, **except** vehicles over 10,000 pounds and the living facilities of motor homes.

What can you do if you have a Lemon?

If you think your new vehicle is defective, you must notify (*in writing*) either the vehicle’s manufacturer or dealer during the term of warranty or within one year of delivery of the vehicle.

What is a reasonable number of attempts to repair?

Oklahoma’s Lemon Law requires a manufacturer to repair a new car and conform to all express warranties within the warranty period or within one year of the purchase. You must provide the dealer or manufacturer a “reasonable number of attempts” to fix the vehicle. (Four is generally recognized as a reasonable amount by Oklahoma law.)

If my car is a Lemon, can I get a new vehicle?

If the manufacturer’s efforts and repairs fail after four attempts, you may be entitled to have the car replaced with one of comparable value or get your money back (minus a reasonable allowance for your use of the vehicle). If you cannot use the car for a total of 30 business days during that same period because of the problem, you may also be able to get your money back or have the car replaced.

What if the manufacturer or dealer is not complying with the Oklahoma Lemon Law?

If the manufacturer or dealer is not complying, it is a good idea to consult with an Oklahoma attorney about your defective new vehicle. You may be able to sue the manufacturer or dealer under the Oklahoma Lemon Law. If you do, it is also possible to recover your attorney’s fees under this type of claim.

If you have any questions about whether Oklahoma's Lemon Law applies to your situation, please contact us at the Fort Sill Legal Assistance Office or contact Oklahoma's State Motor Vehicle Commission at (405) 607-8227.

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This Information Paper provides only basic information and is not intended to serve as a substitute for personal consultation with a Legal Assistance Attorney. To schedule an appointment with a Legal Assistance Attorney, please contact the Legal Assistance Office at (580) 442-5058. The Fort Sill Legal Assistance Office is located on the 4th Floor of Building 4700 (Welcome Center) at 4700 Mow-Way Road, Fort Sill, Oklahoma 73503.