

# 126 deregistered vehicles impounded in LTA blitz: what car owners must do when trading in or exporting

## Description

default watermark

The Land Transport Authority and the Singapore Police Force impounded 126 deregistered vehicles in a joint enforcement exercise from 11 to 19 November 2026. That comes on top of 440 vehicles impounded in investigations from January to October. For car owners, the rules that matter cover what happens to a car after it is deregistered.

LTA puts this yearâ??s higher numbers down to two things: more of these offences, and better detection. Blitz operations, roadblocks and patrols continue, now backed by roadside surveillance systems and ERP 2.




A deregistered car seized by LTA during enforcement operations. Photo: Land Transport Authority

## The blitz and the court cases

The 126 vehicles were impounded for further investigation. LTA also set out court cases against three people. On 19 November 2026, LTA charged a 38-year-old man and a 34-year-old man under the Road Traffic Act 1961 with allegedly keeping 15 and four deregistered vehicles respectively, and with making false declarations to LTA about disposing of them. In a separate case mentioned in court on 20

November, a 63-year-old man faces charges of allegedly using a deregistered vehicle with a false licence plate, without a valid vehicle licence and without insurance, on 49 occasions between 2024 and 2025.


default watermark

A deregistered light goods vehicle seized by LTA. Photo: Land Transport Authority

## If you are trading in your car

The order of paperwork matters. Where a car is traded in, LTA says the transfer of ownership should be completed before the vehicle is deregistered, and owners should make sure the buyer confirms the transfer on OneMotoring.

If you stay on as the last registered owner while a dealer handles an export, the responsibility stays with you too. You have to make sure the car is properly disposed of and submit the disposal documents to

LTA. If the vehicle is later found to be misused, or the disposal papers turn out to be falsified, LTA investigates everyone involved, the last registered owner included, alongside the exporter.

## The export route is tightening

Parliament passed new laws in October 2026 to tighten how deregistered vehicles are disposed of. Under the Authorised Exporter Scheme in those laws, a deregistered vehicle meant for export must be handed to an LTA-authorised exporter within 14 days of deregistration, and those exporters face LTAâ??s regulatory requirements and audits.

LTAâ??s stated aim is stronger accountability over who handles a car once it comes off the register.

default watermark




A deregistered motorcycle seized by LTA during enforcement operations. Photo: Land Transport Authority

## The penalties, as they stand

Penalties for keeping or using an unregistered or deregistered vehicle rose sharply on 27 February 2026. LTA lists these maximum penalties for the related offences:

- Keeping or using an unregistered or deregistered vehicle: a fine of up to S$20,000, jail of up to two years, or both, for a first offence, against S$2,000 and three months before. A repeat offence carries up to S$40,000, four years, or both.
- Not submitting disposal documents to LTA within one month of deregistration: a fine of up to S$2,000 or jail of up to three months for a first offence, and up to S$5,000 or six months for a repeat.
- Making a false or misleading declaration to LTA: a fine of up to S$5,000, jail of up to 12 months, or both.
- Displaying a false licence plate: a fine of up to S$5,000, jail of up to 12 months, or both.
- Using a vehicle without a valid licence: a fine of up to S$2,000.
- Using a vehicle without insurance cover: a fine of up to S$1,000, jail of up to three months, or both.

Anyone who suspects a deregistered vehicle is being kept or driven can report it through OneMotoring.

default watermark

**Date Created**
23/11/2026
**Author**
vanessakoh