

**SAMPLE  
“OWNER” LABEL**

**SAMPLE “OWNER” LABEL TO BE AFFIXED TO ALL  
RENTAL OR LEASED PROPERTY**

**THIS PROPERTY IS SOLELY OWNED BY     (name of business    ) AND MAY NOT BE SOLD, OFFERED FOR SALE, PAWNED, OR USED AS SECURITY FOR A LOAN, AND FURTHER MAY NOT BE PURCHASED OR RECEIVED AS SECURITY FOR A LOAN OR PAWNED TRANSACTION. THIS OWNER LABEL MAY NOT BE DESTROYED, REMOVED, COVERED, CONCEALED, OR OTHERWISE ALTERED. ANY ACTION BY YOU OR ANYONE ACTING ON YOUR BEHALF ENGAGING IN THESE PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES MAY RESULT IN THE COMMENCEMENT OF CRIMINAL PROSECUTION AGAINST YOU BY THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES UNDER SECTION 570.085 R.S.Mo 1982. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS PROPERTY, YOU SHOULD CONTACT     (name of business, address of business, including city and state, telephone number including area code)    .**

It is suggested that you affix to each item of leased or rented property an owner-identifying label similar to the “sample” label above. It is further recommended that this label be affixed in such a manner that it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to be removed by anyone other than you.

Under **Section 570.085, R.S.Mo 1982**, it is a criminal offence to alter or remove an owner applied number or mark on the manufacture’s original serial number if such action is done with the purpose of depriving the owner of the property of a lawful interest therein. A copy of **Section 570.085** is attached hereto.

It is also suggested that you “engrave” the property to include in a different, but clearly visible location, a statement such as the following: **“This property is solely owned by     (name of business)    ,     (street address, including city, state and zip code)    ,     (telephone number, including area code)    .** An example of this mark would be as follows: “This property is solely owned by Disney Rent to Own, Inc., 125 Mickey Drive, Disneyland, MO 65209 (314-888-8100)”.

The practice of affixing such an “Owner Label” should be a regular practice of the business and should be done for each item of rented or leased property. At the time the customer has acquired ownership of the rented or leased property either by paying for the same in cash or by making all the rental payments provided for under the Rental Purchase Agreement, the business will then need to remove the owner-affixed label and any other “engraved” identifying mark.

As you will note from the attached statutory provisions contained within **Section 570.085**, alteration or removal of an owner-applied, distinguishing number or mark is a Class D felony if the value of the item or items in the aggregate is \$150.00 or more. This statutory section will provide, in appropriate cases, for criminal prosecution to be commenced by the appropriate local law enforcement authorities against the customer or anyone acting on the customer’s behalf in violation of this statutory provision and will further allow for such proceedings to be commenced against other individuals, including pawnshops.

It is strongly recommended that prior to affixing to the leased or rented property any “form” owner label is set forth above that you discuss the same with your legal counsel.

**570.085** Alterations or removal of item numbers with intent to deprive lawful owner

1. A person commits the crime of alteration or removal of item numbers if he, with the purpose of depriving the owner of a lawful interest therein:

(1) Destroys, removes, covers, conceals, alters, defaces, or causes to be destroyed, removed, covered, concealed, altered, or defaced, the manufacturer's original serial number or other distinguishing owner-applied number or mark, on any item which bears a serial number attached by the manufacturer or distinguishing number or mark applied by the owner of the item, for any reason whatsoever;

(2) Sells, offers for sale, pawns or uses as security for a loan, any item on which the manufacturer's original serial number or other distinguishing owner-applied number or mark has been destroyed, removed, covered, concealed, altered, or defaced; or

(3) Buys, receives as security for a loan or in pawn, or in any manner receives or has in his possession any item on which the manufacturer's original serial number or other distinguishing owner-applied number or mark has been destroyed, removed, covered, concealed, altered, or defaced.

2. Alteration or removal of item numbers in a Class D felony if the value of the item or items is the aggregate is one hundred fifty dollars or more. If the value of the item or items in the aggregate is less than one hundred fifty dollars, then it is a Class B misdemeanor.

(L 1982, p. 690, p 1)