

## **California Lemon Law – FAQ's**

### **Q: What is a "lemon"?**

A lemon is a vehicle that shows a severe nonconformity that is hard to repair.

### **Q: What is a "lemon law"?**

Lemon laws are the US state laws that offer remedies to consumers for the products like boats, cars, computers, motorcycles, refrigerators, RVs, etc. which show a severe nonconformity that is hard to repair and frequently fails to meet the standards of quality and performance as stated in the manufacturer's express warranty.

### **Q: How can a "lemon law" help me if I have landed a "lemon"?**

If you have a new or used car, truck, motor home, RV or trailer which has turned out to be a lemon and it is not properly repaired within a reasonable number of attempts, the manufacturer is required to return your money to you and pay your vehicle loan off or, in some situations, replace the the lemon vehicle.

### **Q: What is the Song-Beverly Consumer Warranty Act for?**

The [California lemon law](#) is officially known as the Song-Beverly Consumer Warranty Act, found in California Civil Code sections 1790 et seq. The Song-Beverly Consumer Warranty Act or the California lemon law is designed to protect consumers who purchase or lease warranted motor vehicles in California.

### **Q: How do I know if I have bought myself a "lemon" vehicle in California?**

To declare your vehicle a lemon the California lemon law requires your vehicle to show a non-conformity covered by the warranty. The California lemon law requires that the non-conformity substantially impairs your vehicle's use, value or your safety. The California lemon law, does not apply to vehicles with trivial or minor defects. If your car or truck was out of service by reason of warranty repairs for a total of 30 days within the first 18 months or 18,000 miles you get the benefit of what is termed as a "presumption" that your vehicle is a "lemon".

### **Q: If my vehicle is qualified as a lemon what remedies am I entitled to?**

According to the California lemon law, as an owner or a lessee of the lemon vehicle, you will be entitled to a replacement vehicle or a refund of the vehicle's purchase/lease price.

### **Q: How does a written warranty or an express warranty of my vehicle help me?**

In California, a purchaser or lessee of a new motor vehicle has various rights under both the State and Federal laws, if the vehicle does not perform as mentioned in an express warranty. You must have a written warranty from the manufacturer of the vehicle. If you do not have a written warranty, California's lemon law will not apply to your California lemon vehicle. The California lemon law protects you for the length of the vehicle's warranty and beyond, if the problems occurred while under warranty.



**Q: How do I proceed to claim my California lemon law protection if my vehicle has defects that fail to conform to the written warranty?**

You need to notify the manufacturer through certified mail about the nonconformity and allow him or his representative a "reasonable number" of attempts on the defect to fix it depending on the nature of the issue. If the problem is related to safety of the passengers and the people on the road fewer attempts are needed.

**Q: If the manufacturer can not fix the problem in my vehicle does it mean I lost my hard earned money?**

Generally, a manufacturer who is unable to conform a consumer product to its express warranty within a reasonable number of attempts is required to replace the goods or refund the purchase price less an amount attributable to the consumer's use.

**Q: Can I charge the manufacturer of my vehicle with my attorney's fees and costs?**

Yes, under the provisions of the California lemon law, the manufacturer is charged with responsibility of paying reasonable attorney's fees and costs of the lemon vehicle sold to you and failed to fulfill his buy-back obligation.

This information is not intended as legal advice. Please direct your specific questions to [Krohn & Moss](#) for protection involving defective vehicles (lemon law), Products (Warranty law), Consumer Fraud, Violations of Renters Rights, Credit Report discrepancies and lenders and creditors discrepancies.

If you think your consumer rights have been violated and you need legal help, call **Krohn & Moss attorneys**, toll free, at 1-800 US LEMON<sup>®</sup> (800-875-3666) for a [FREE CASE REVIEW](#), or complete one of our online submission forms.



## About Krohn & Moss

The law firm of **Krohn & Moss, Consumer Law Center®**, was founded in 1995 by attorneys [Adam Krohn](#) and [Greg Moss](#), to provide legal representation to consumers with defective vehicles and products. Krohn & Moss attorneys represented 40,000+ consumers in California(CA) and other states with 98% success rate. Krohn & Moss Consumer Law Center® has arbitrated, settled and litigated cases which have had a profound impact on consumer protection law.

The law firm of Krohn & Moss, Consumer Law Center® offices has conveniently located in major states; **Arizona, California, Florida, Texas & Illinois, Indiana, Kansas & Missouri, Nevada, Ohio.**

## Further Help and Information

If you have any questions or want more information on your rights under the California (The Lemon Law), call or write:

**Krohn & Moss, Ltd.**  
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