



STATE OF KANSAS  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

**DEREK SCHMIDT**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

February 1, 2022

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Hon. Ty Masterson  
President, Kansas Senate  
Statehouse, Room 332-E  
Topeka, KS 66612

Hon. Ron Ryckman  
Speaker, Kansas House of Representatives  
Statehouse, Room 370-W  
Topeka, KS 66612

Hon. Kellie Warren  
Chair, Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
Statehouse, Room 441-E  
Topeka, KS 66612

Hon. Fred Patton  
Chair, House Committee on the Judiciary  
Statehouse, Room 519-N  
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear President Masterson, Speaker Ryckman, Chair Warren and Chair Patton:

Pursuant to K.S.A. 50-6,109a(h), please accept this letter as my report on the implementation, administration and enforcement of the provisions of the Scrap Metal Theft Reduction Act (SMTRA).

The 2021 calendar year was the first full year of reimplementation following the July 1, 2020, enactment that brought back into effect several provisions of the SMTRA that had either been unfunded or suspended by legislative action. This included the requirement for scrap metal dealers, as defined by the act, to register with the attorney general's office in order to purchase regulated scrap metal, and to collect information about certain scrap metal transactions and submit certain portions of that information collected to a database managed by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation.

As of December 31, 2021, 120 scrap metal dealers at 141 locations had completed the registration requirements with the attorney general's office. Two applications for registration as a scrap metal dealer were denied pursuant to 50-6,112b. Our office has also initiated enforcement actions against scrap metal dealers suspected of operating in violation of the law. During the 2021 calendar year, our office sent 16 cease-and-desist letters to scrap metal dealers suspected of operating without being properly registered.

Upon completing the registration requirements, the attorney general's office provides the scrap metal dealer's information to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation to create an account that allows the dealer to submit the required transactional information to the database. During the 2021 calendar year, 130,656 transactions were submitted to the database. Law enforcement agencies made 4,264 inquiries to the database as part of their investigations.

We trust that this information will be useful in your continued policymaking discussions as we work to combat scrap metal theft.

Sincerely,

Derek Schmidt  
Kansas Attorney General