

CHAPTER 32 – IMPOUNDING VEHICLES

Section 32.00 Impounding Vehicles

Section 32.01 – Vehicle Inventories

EFFECTIVE: JULY 1, 2020

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A. Vehicles belonging to the public may be impounded under the following conditions:

1. The vehicle was driven by a subject in the custody of the police, and no other licensed driver is able to respond to the scene within 15-20 minutes.
 - a. An arrestee's vehicle may be left parked, unattended on a public street or roadway. With consent of the owner, a vehicle may be left parked legally on a city street. An "Authorization Not To Tow" the vehicle will be completed by the officer and signed by the owner prior to leaving the scene.
2. The vehicle is abandoned on a roadway in such a manner as to cause a traffic hazard if allowed to remain. Officers should attempt to contact the vehicle's owner, if possible, before having the vehicle impounded.
3. The vehicle is abandoned on public property for over 48 hours.
4. The vehicle is left unattended in a fire lane. Officers should attempt to contact the owner of the vehicle, if possible, before impounding the vehicle, unless a fire emergency exists.
5. The vehicle is abandoned on private property or is blocking the property owner's access to the property. When a vehicle is towed at the request of a property owner or responsible party, that party shall sign the tow report as the person requesting the tow.
6. The vehicle is involved in a traffic accident in which the driver is incapacitated.

B. Officers will complete a police department tow report on vehicles that are impounded. In addition, officers will complete Missouri D.O.R. form, Crime Inquiry and Inspection/Authorization to Tow, on all police tows except those resulting from arrest.

Section 32.01 – Vehicle Inventories

A. When a citizen's vehicle is towed and that vehicle is in the care and custody of the Raymore Police Department, the vehicle shall be inventoried and all items listed on a tow report.

B. The inventory shall include all "closed containers" found in the vehicle. This is done to protect the vehicle's owner as well as the police department. A closed container shall include:

1. Glove box.

2. Console.
3. Trunk.
4. Other compartments or containers where items may be stored.

C. If the officer finds a locked compartment or container and no keys are available, the officer must document this occurrence on the tow report.

D. Items of value, such as money, jewelry, electronics, credit cards and identification will not be left in a vehicle that is towed. These items will be recovered and placed in the property room consistent with safekeeping policy. Officers are cautioned to use good judgment about what constitutes "value" of an item and are encouraged to consult a supervisor when in doubt.

E. If items of contraband are found, they shall also be recovered for evaluation of possible criminal charges.