

GENERAL ORDER



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Title Vehicle Towing and Impoundment		
Topic	Series	Number
OPS	303	03
Effective Date June 20, 2019		
Replaces GO-OPS-303.03 (Tow Crane Operation and Enforcement), Effective Date November 16, 2006		
Related to GO-SPT-601.01 (Recording, Handling and Disposition of Property Coming into the Custody of the Department) GO-SPT-602.01 (Vehicle Searches and Inventories)		

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I. PURPOSE

The policy of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) is to balance public safety needs with the rights and conveniences of the public by ensuring that a fair and equitable vehicle towing system is maintained by public authorities. The purpose of this order is to convey procedures for private and public towing and impoundment of vehicles. This order includes procedures for maintaining an accurate record of all movements and dispositions of motor vehicles towed by or on behalf of MPD members taking police action.

II. PROCEDURES

A. General Rules

1. All towing in the District of Columbia performed at the request, direction, or arrangement of a police officer or other authorized government official is considered public towing and shall be performed in accordance with the Centralized Towing Program (CTP) pursuant to Title 16 DCMR Chapter 4 (Towing Service for Motor Vehicles).
2. All requests for towing service made by MPD members shall be directed to the Office of Unified Communications (OUC) with adequate

information that will enable OUC to properly reference the call and to forward it to the Towing Control Center (TCC) when appropriate. **All** public tows require the issuance of a Towing Control Number (TCN) by the TCC.

3. Tow trucks are dispatched in accordance with criteria developed by the CTP, relying primarily upon the specific towing category and description provided by the requesting government official.
4. Members shall ensure compliance with GO-SPT-602.01 (Vehicle Searches and Inventories) when conducting police impoundment tows. Members shall inventory **all** vehicles towed for police impoundment (i.e., held for civil forfeiture, evidence, prisoner property, and safekeeping) according to the procedures set forth in GO-SPT-602.01.
5. Members shall ensure compliance with GO-SPT-601.01 (Recording, Handling, and Disposition of Property Coming into the Custody of the Department) prior to impounding a vehicle for any reason. Members shall ensure that all property-related forms are submitted to the correct element.
6. Members shall ensure compliance with GO-OPS-304.08 (Crime Scene Response and Evidence Collection) prior to impounding a vehicle for evidentiary purposes.
7. Members shall ensure that OUC is notified of the new location of all towed and relocated vehicles.

B. Requesting Towing Service

1. When a situation requires towing service, members shall notify OUC who will facilitate the request. Members shall not contact the TCC directly to request towing service.
2. Members shall immediately perform a WALES check for possible stolen vehicle status on all vehicles for which a towing request is made.
3. When requesting towing service from OUC, members shall report the vehicle's location, make, model or type, color, VIN, and license plate information, if available. Members shall also report one of the below towing categories, type of tow truck needed (e.g., crane, flat bed), and current status or position of the vehicle (e.g., on or off roadway).

Towing Categories	
Relocation	Disabled vehicle
Police impoundment	Courtesy service assistance
Traffic violation	Disabled police vehicle
Crash vehicle	Recovered stolen vehicle

4. OUC personnel will forward all towing requests to the appropriate towing dispatcher on the basis of the towing category. Towing service is

dispatched, as appropriate, through the ATS rotating crane list, Department of Public Works (DPW)-controlled cranes, or MPD-controlled cranes.

5. For all public tows, the TCC will assign a TCN to the request, provide the TCN to OUC, and dispatch the proper towing service to the scene. OUC will confirm the tow request by providing the requesting member the TCN, the identity of the responding towing service, and an estimated time of arrival.
6. Members shall ensure, to the best of their ability, the safekeeping of all vehicles and property.

C. Towing Categories

1. Relocation	
a.	<p>Rush hour DPW-controlled cranes handle rush hour towing; however, MPD members may request a relocation tow in the event that they observe a vehicle impacting rush hour traffic. During the periods between 0700 hours to 0930 hours and 1600 hours to 1830 hours members shall request a rush hour tow to remove parked vehicles that illegally interfere with the movement of traffic on arterial streets or violate posted rush hour parking restrictions.</p>
b.	<p>Posted public space Pursuant to valid emergency signage indicating the date and time when parking is prohibited, vehicles in violation of the posted notices may be towed at the request of a member of the community or at the initiative of a Department member. In such circumstances, members shall issue the appropriate NOI and request a relocation tow.</p>
c.	<p>Public roadway safety hazards When access to property or facilities are blocked by a vehicle on public property in such a way that official government operations are affected, public safety is at risk, or access to private property is blocked, the vehicle may be towed at the request of a government official or at the initiative of a Department member. In such circumstances, members shall issue the appropriate NOI and request a relocation tow.</p>
d.	<p>Safety and security precautions When identified by appropriate official pronouncements or when an identifiable police security purpose exists (e.g., Presidential escorts, disaster scenes, hostage situations, industrial accidents, hazardous waste sites, vehicles within specified parameters), members shall request a relocation tow.</p>
e.	<p>Snow emergency route When the DPW Director, in response to the issuance of a severe weather forecast, orders the activation of the snow emergency plan, declaring a parking ban on snow emergency routes, members shall coordinate with DPW in clearing stalled and illegally parked vehicles from streets designated as snow emergency routes. In such circumstances, the member shall issue the appropriate NOI and request a tow.</p>

2. Police Impoundment	
a.	<p>Held for civil forfeiture Pursuant to GO-SPT-601.03 (Handling and Accounting for Seized and Forfeited Property), members shall request a tow for vehicles involving seizures for offenses that provide by law for the possible forfeiture of a vehicle due to its relevance to a crime. These laws pertain to offenses such as drug dealing, illegal dumping, or weapons violations and require specific findings before they can be employed.</p>
b.	<p>Evidence Pursuant to GO-SPT-601.01 and GO-SPT-304.08 (Crime Scene Response and Evidence Collection), these seizures take place upon determination that the vehicle is needed for evidentiary purposes in a criminal proceeding or when a serious traffic matter is involved.</p>
c.	<p>Prisoner property</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Members are authorized to tow a motor vehicle for the purposes of safeguarding prisoner property only when the prisoner consents or is incapable of making other arrangements for its disposition. (2) Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 50-2206.65, when a person is arrested for a crime while possessing a vehicle that is not needed as evidence, the vehicle shall be released at any time to a registered owner of the vehicle (other than the arrested person) or to the arrested person 24 hours after the arrest.
d.	<p>Safekeeping</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Members may impound for safekeeping any vehicle whose condition, location, or other circumstances give reason to believe that the vehicle is suspected stolen, pending verification of its status, the estate of deceased or mentally ill individuals, or in need of preservation due to an inability to safeguard property when no person is available to rightfully take custody. (2) <u>Members shall ensure that vehicles towed for safekeeping purposes are not transported to Blue Plains Impoundment Lot (BPIL).</u> Safekeeping tows shall be conducted by ATS operators and transported to private lots.

3. Traffic Violation	
a.	Members shall only request a traffic violation tow for unregistered vehicles [including automobiles, mopeds, motorcycles, and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs)] and vehicles deemed unsafe to be operated in the District of Columbia that require towing to a vehicle inspection station.
b.	During business hours (Monday through Friday from 0700-1800 hours), a DPW tow crane will be dispatched to the scene to handle traffic violation tows.
c.	During non-business hours (Monday through Friday from 1800-0700 hours, on weekends, and holidays), members shall request that an ATS crane be dispatched to the scene to tow the vehicle to a private lot. NOTE: DWI, DUI, No Permit, and other traffic arrests are not categorized as traffic violation tows. Such requests are considered police impoundment tows.

4. Crash Vehicle	
a.	<p>When a member arrives at the scene of a crash and it is apparent that the services of a tow truck are needed for removing vehicles from the intersection, roadway, or other location to provide for the safe movement of traffic, members shall adhere to the following procedures:</p> <p>(1) Vehicles shall be serviced through the ATS and shall use the crane service arranged by the TCC unless the owner or operator directs the removal of the vehicle to a destination of his or her choice. In such cases, members shall ensure that the owner or operator is advised that he or she will be financially responsible.</p> <p>(2) If the vehicle is also a recovered stolen vehicle, involved in a fatal crash, needed for evidence, or subject to seizure, the vehicle shall be categorized according to those circumstances rather than as a crash vehicle tow.</p> <p>(3) Members shall direct the tow truck operator to transport the vehicle to the towing business' storage lot unless the owner or operator opts to have the vehicle transported to a different location. Owners who choose an alternate destination shall be told that the transport will occur at the owner's expense.</p> <p>(4) Members shall ensure that the operator signs the towing service's statement acknowledging the removal and payment responsibility to the towing business. If the vehicle owner or operator is unable or refuses to sign the statement, members shall sign the statement, facilitate the removal of the disabled vehicle, and provide a copy of the statement to the vehicle operator.</p> <p><u>NOTE:</u> The signing of such a statement by a Department member does not constitute an agreement on the part of District government or the vehicle operator to pay the charges proposed to be collected by the towing business but rather serves as an acknowledgement of the tow.</p>
5. Disabled Vehicle	
a.	When the operator or responsible person is not at the scene and the disabled vehicle is not obstructing traffic or creating a safety hazard, but is in violation of a parking regulation, the member shall issue an appropriate NOI only.
b.	If a vehicle does not pose an immediate safety hazard, and the vehicle operator is at the scene, the situation requires only courtesy service.
6. Courtesy Service Assistance	
a.	Upon observing a motorist in need of assistance, members shall offer appropriate aid or assistance to the extent of their immediate capability as may be limited by other responsibilities and calls for service.
b.	At the request of the owner or operator at the scene, members may, through the OUC or telephone, assist in obtaining the repair or towing services, if the owner or operator does not have access to a telephone. Members may request towing by using the 311 mobile application.
c.	Members shall not refer or recommend a specific towing company. Towing services provided in courtesy service assistance situations are private tows and are personally arranged by the owner or operator.

7. Disabled Police Vehicle	
a.	MPD vehicles that are inoperable or otherwise require towing for service, repair, or relocation, shall be towed by MPD Fleet Maintenance contract cranes only.
b.	In the event that an MPD Fleet Maintenance contract crane is not available, OUC is responsible for finding an alternative.

8. Recovered Stolen Vehicle	
a.	Recovered stolen vehicles shall be properly identified through confirmation of the stolen vehicle's license plate (if any) and vehicle identification number (VIN). If the vehicle cannot be released to the owner or responsible person, it shall be towed.
b.	Members facilitating recovered stolen vehicle tows shall: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Examine the vehicle for contraband and owner's records. (2) Attempt to contact the owner through the OUC. If the vehicle is operational and the owner is able to respond promptly to the scene to take possession, verify proof of ownership, execute a PD Form 81-A (Property Return) to release the vehicle. (3) When efforts to release the vehicle from the scene have been exhausted or if it is impractical for the member to remain out of service long enough to await arrival of the owner, request a recovered stolen vehicle tow. (4) When vehicles are in poor condition and cannot be driven from the scene, request a recovered stolen vehicle tow. <p>NOTE: Applicable towing or storage fees will be charged to the vehicle owner, operator, or insurance company.</p>
c.	Prior to releasing the vehicle to the tow truck driver, the recovering member shall, in accordance with GO-SPT-602.01: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Perform a vehicle inventory. Attempt to determine the name and, if available, address and telephone number of the insurance company. (2) Remove all personal property of significant value that cannot be secured for safekeeping. (3) Log property removed from the vehicle on a separate PD Form 81. (4) Provide the tow truck operator with a completed PD Form 82-A (Property Receipt) to document the removal of the property from the vehicle.
d.	The recovering member shall prepare the appropriate police reports required by the recovery, to include all appropriate notifications as required by this order and as outlined in GO-SPT-601.01. The recovering member, regardless of assignment, is responsible for preparation of relevant reports. This includes instances when a vehicle is impounded at a facility other than the recovering member's element.
e.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The vehicle shall be recorded on the element's PD Form 82 and a copy of the tow ticket attached to the right-hand page. Any additional information indicating the location of the vehicle (e.g., towing company storage lot, address, telephone number, and TCN) should also be entered. (2) The completion of the PD Form 81 and entries on the PD Form 82 shall be made as soon as practicable and by the end of the member's shift.

f.	Members shall enter the vehicle, identifying information, and recovery location into the Records Management System (RMS). If the address cannot be verified in RMS, members shall enter the closest verifiable street address.
g.	The TCC will advise the owner or insurance company by mail of the vehicle's status. This notice includes the towing company's name, address, and telephone number, and all associated towing fees and daily storage charges for which the owner will be responsible.
h.	Members shall notify OUC in cases where the owner is known to work or reside in another district so that all possible assistance can be given in notifying or locating the owner of the recovered vehicle.
i.	Recovering members shall ensure that all appropriate notifications are made to OUC, documenting the date, time and persons notified. In addition, if the vehicle is not drivable, is stripped of parts, or is missing its VIN, this information shall be reported to OUC as well as documented in the report.
j.	In the event that a vehicle has had its VIN altered, destroyed or removed, the member shall promptly notify the Criminal Investigations Division (CID) Auto Theft Unit and record the information in the incident report.
k.	Members shall notify the owner and complete all appropriate documentation according to the following procedures: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) All documented notifications shall include the person notified, member making notification, method of notification, and date and time of notification. (2) The recovering member shall personally contact the owner. If the recovering member is unable to contact the owner prior to the end of his or her shift, he or she shall turn over the PD Form 81 to the property member, pursuant to GO-SPT-601.01. If property personnel are not in attendance, the member shall consult with his or her official to determine the appropriate course of action. (3) If element property personnel are unable to make notification, all efforts shall be documented and the PD Form 81 turned over to incoming element property personnel. The fact that the notification is pending shall be brought to the attention of a district administrative official. (4) If, within 48 hours, element property personnel are unable to make notification, they shall forward a notification letter to the owner by certified mail with return receipt requested. Attachment A contains a sample notification letter. (5) Element property personnel shall ensure that copies of all letters and mail receipts are maintained in a file with the element's copy of the PD 81. (6) Element property personnel shall review PD Forms 82 on a daily basis to ensure that a PD Form 81 is received for each recovered stolen vehicle and the required owner notification has been made.
l.	All lieutenants and above who review and approve PD Forms 81 for recovered stolen vehicles shall ensure that notifications are made and properly documented.

m.	<p>Members shall attempt to determine the owner or operator's insurance company for each recovered stolen vehicle.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The recovering member shall query the owner or examine the interior during the vehicle inventory to determine the name and, if available, the address and telephone number of the insurance company. (2) The information shall be entered in the narrative section of all police reports prepared to document the recovery, particularly the PD Form 81. (3) The recovering member shall query any available insurance company program [e.g., National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB)] designed to coordinate stolen vehicle insurance files. The NICB database may be accessed through the Teletype Unit or the CID Auto Theft Unit. (4) In the event that a vehicle is destroyed by fire or has had its VIN altered, destroyed or removed, rendering the vehicle unidentifiable, the member shall notify the Auto Theft Unit and record this notification in the report narrative. The Auto Theft Unit shall retain responsibility for the identification of the questioned vehicle, the preparation of recovery reports, and owner notification. (5) If the Auto Theft Unit cannot be contacted at the time, the recovering member shall request a stolen vehicle tow and shall provide the Auto Theft Unit with a copy of the PD Form 81.
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D. Tow Truck Arrival

1. When the tow truck arrives on scene, members shall verify that the TCN provided to the tow truck operator is accurate and inform the OUC of the tow truck's time of arrival.
2. The member shall record the TCN, along with any other appropriate information on all applicable report forms. The member shall also provide the TCN to the owner or operator of the towed vehicle.

E. Owner Notifications and Inquiries

1. The TCC generally conducts owner notifications. Members shall make a reasonable effort to locate the vehicle's owner to inform the owner of the vehicle's location. Notification efforts shall be coordinated with the TCC and successful efforts shall be documented and reported to OUC. Notifications for recovered stolen vehicles are made according to the procedures in in this order.
2. In the event that a vehicle owner contacts MPD to inquire about the location of their vehicle, members shall contact OUC to request the vehicle's new location.

F. Documentation

Members shall, when applicable:

1. Prepare all applicable NOI, PD Form 81, PD Form 82, and RMS reports. Record the new location of the vehicle on all police reports and apply

the correct property classification on the PD Form 81 and record the vehicle's information, TCN, and tow truck operator's name in the PD Form 82.

2. Submit the completed PD Form 81 and a reproduced NOI to the correct district official.
3. Submit the pink copy of the NOI to the DPW tow operator, if applicable, or affix it to the vehicle's windshield when the vehicle is taken to a private lot.

G. Parked on Private Property Violations

1. At the request of the property owner, manager, or otherwise authorized person, the member shall issue an NOI for parking on private property. Members shall verify the complainant's identity, ensure that the property owner, manager, or authorized person sign and note their telephone number or additional means of contact. This documented information will be necessary if the violation is contested.
2. When handling complaints involving vehicles parked on private property, members shall conduct a WALES check.
3. The property owner, manager, or authorized person shall be responsible for securing a licensed tow truck to remove the vehicle (licensed tow truck operators are required to obtain a TCN in these situations).
4. The private property owner, manager, or authorized person must make reasonable efforts to give notice to the vehicle owner of its whereabouts and the means to retrieve it.
5. With the exception of members working off-duty assignments funded by a private property owner, members shall not act on behalf of a property owner, manager, or authorized person by initiating NOIs or dealing directly with towing companies. The property owner, manager, or authorized person is required to be physically on scene to articulate the violation, request an NOI, and sign the NOI.

H. Abandoned Motor Vehicles

1. Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 50-2421.02, an abandoned motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer that is left, parked, or stored on public space for more than 48 hours or on private property for more than 30 days, and to which at least two of the following apply:
 - a. The vehicle is extensively damaged, including fire damage;

- b. The vehicle is apparently inoperable, including a vehicle missing its transmission, motor, or one or more tires, and which is not undergoing emergency repair;
 - c. The vehicle serves as harborage for rats, vermin, and other pests; or
 - d. The vehicle does not display valid tags or a valid registration sticker.
2. Abandoned vehicle tows are handled by DPW. MPD members **shall not** facilitate the towing of abandoned vehicles unless exigent circumstances exist. MPD members may issue an NOI for an abandoned vehicle violation and use the 311 mobile application to request an abandoned vehicle tow.

III. DEFINITIONS

When used in this directive, the following terms shall have the meanings designated.

	Term	Definition
1.	Authorized Towing Service (ATS)	Rotational list of private towing companies that are licensed by the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) and have agreed to perform public towing operations on terms and conditions set forth by DPW.
2.	Centralized Towing Program (CTP)	Operating model for vehicle towing within the District of Columbia; provides a single point of contact for agencies to obtain towing services and a single source of information for all public tows.
3.	DPW-controlled crane	Tow service owned, leased or contracted by DPW. During normal business hours, DPW-controlled cranes are dispatched. Outside of normal business hours, MPD-controlled cranes are dispatched for DPW-controlled crane functions.
4.	Impoundment	Taking of a vehicle into custody by a District agency for reasons including, but not limited to, safekeeping, forfeiture, evidence, or as a penalty.
5.	MPD-controlled crane	MPD-owned crane or private crane contracted by MPD to supplement MPD-owned cranes.
6.	Owner	Person or entity to whom a vehicle is registered, or to whom it is leased, if the terms of the lease require the lessee to maintain and repair the vehicle. The holder of a contract with a vehicle rental agency shall not be considered the owner of that vehicle.
7.	Private tow	Towing of a vehicle at the request of the owner or the authorized agent of the owner.

8.	Public tow	Towing of a vehicle, other than a vehicle owned or controlled by a government entity, at the direction or arrangement of a government entity or, without the consent of the owner or operator of the vehicle, including relocations, repossessions, and private property tows.
9.	Towing Control Center (TCC)	Center operated by DPW consisting of an automated towing dispatch and tracking process built around computer aided dispatch (CAD). The TCC operates 24 hours, 7 days a week, and provides comprehensive tracking of all public tows, universal notification to vehicle owners, and real-time updates on vehicle locations. The TCC interfaces with the OUC, and can access a variety of databases within District government, including Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Washington Area Law Enforcement System (WALES) and National Crime Information Center (NCIC), to determine vehicle ownership and possible stolen or wanted status.
10.	Towing Control Number (TCN)	Unique TCC-issued number used to identify and track towed vehicles [four-digit year, two-digit month, two-digit day, and four-digit tow number in sequence (i.e., 201906201110)].
11.	Towing service storage lot	Space used to deposit and store vehicles that have been towed.
12.	Tow truck license	Alphanumeric identifier issued by DCRA for each tow truck used or operated by a licensed towing business, and that is required to be posted in the bottom left corner on the licensed vehicle.

IV. RESCISSION

<p>Rescinds EO-16-011 (COBALT Reminder: Entering Location for Recovered Stolen Vehicles), Effective Date September 30, 2016 TT-02-049-08 (DPW Policy for Rotating Towing Companies), Effective Date February 14, 2008 TT-03-060-12 (RPP Enforcement), Effective Date March 15, 2012 TT-06-005-12 (Requests for Towing Service), Effective Date June 1, 2012</p>
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V. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Sample Notification Letter

Attachment B: Towing Category Matrix



Peter Newsham
 Chief of Police



[Owner Name]
[Owner Address]

Dear Sir/Madam:

Our records indicate that you are the listed owner of record for the following vehicle, which has been reported stolen:

Year	Make	Model	Color

License Plate No.	Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)

This is to notify you that your vehicle was recovered by [Rank and Name/Badge Number], assigned to the Metropolitan Police Department's _____ District, [Unit Phone Number] on [Date] at [Location].

At the time of its recovery, it was not necessary for the Department to retain custody of your vehicle; therefore, it was turned over to [Towing Company Name], located at [Address]; Phone Number (____) _____ - _____.

You are encouraged to contact the towing company immediately to confirm that your vehicle is in their custody. Please notify your insurance company (if applicable) and make arrangements to claim your vehicle as well as satisfy any towing/storage fees that are due (towing and storage fees are controlled by District regulations). When responding to your vehicle, please bring proof of ownership (registration/title) and photo identification.

When recovered, your vehicle was described as being [describe conditions (i.e., driveable, not driveable, stripped; no tires/battery/other parts, ignition damage)]. An arrest (was/was not) made. Personal property (was/was not) removed for safekeeping. Property is listed in the District Property Book at page (number/not applicable).

I hope that our recovery of your vehicle and this notification has been of assistance to you. To obtain any additional information, please contact (recovering officer name) or the member investigating your case. Please refer to Central Complaint Number (CCN).

Sincerely,

[Signature – District Commander]

Towing Category Matrix

TOWING CATEGORY		TOW TYPE	DISPATCH TYPE	STORAGE LOCATION	
Relocation	Rush Hour	Public tow	Business hours: DPW crane Non-business hours: ATS	Towed to public space location	
	Posted Public Space				
	Safety/Security Precautions				
	Public Roadway Hazards				
	Snow Emergency Route				
Police Impoundment	Held for Civil Forfeiture	Public tow	MPD crane	District lot BPIL	
	Evidence		Leave vehicle Release to licensed driver ATS	Legally parked Release Private lot	
	Prisoner Property		Release to person authorized to assert custody ATS	Release Private lot	
	Safekeeping		Estate of the Deceased	Release to person authorized to assert custody ATS	Release Private lot
			Estate of the Mentally Ill		
			Safeguarding Property		
Suspected Stolen Vehicle					
Traffic Violation		Public tow	Business hours: DPW crane Non-business hours: ATS	Business hours: DPW Impoundment Lot Non-business hours: Private lot	
Crash Vehicle		Private tow	ATS Vehicle operator request	Private lot Location requested by vehicle operator	
Disabled Vehicle		Private tow	ATS Vehicle operator request	Private lot Location requested by vehicle operator	
Courtesy Service Assistance		Private tow	ATS Vehicle operator request	Private lot Location requested by vehicle operator	
Disabled Police Vehicle		Public tow	DPW crane	Fleet Management Division	
Recovered Stolen Vehicle		Public tow	Release to person authorized to assert custody ATS	Release Private lot	

Tow Type

Private tow — towing of a vehicle at the request of the owner or the authorized agent
 Public tow — towing of a vehicle at the direction of a government entity (e.g., MPD-controlled, DPW-controlled, or Authorized Towing Service)

Dispatch Type

Authorized Towing Service (ATS) — DPW rotational list of private towing companies
 DPW crane — tow services owned, leased, or contracted by DPW
 MPD crane — MPD-operated cranes or private cranes contracted by MPD

Storage Location

Release – vehicle released to person authorized to assert custody
 Towed to another location – legally parked close to the original location
 Blue Plains Impoundment Lot (BPIL) – operated by MPD Evidence Control Branch
 DPW Impoundment Lot – operated by DPW
 District lot – operated by MPD police districts
 Private lot – owned and operated by private ATS towing businesses
 Fleet Management Division – destination of disabled police vehicles