

Action Auto Recovery

“Southern California’s Repossession & Skip Tracing Experts Since 1967“

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Serving: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside & San Diego Counties Daily

FYI: Impounded Vehicles

Impounds can be confusing;

By law the impounding police dept must send you written notice within 48 hours of impound. This notice may come to you in many different forms; the most common is a half sheet mostly unreadable. You should act once you receive this notification. The most common mistake made by our clients is they feel this is the problem of your customer and disregard the notice. Our advice is call your customer and ask them, what their intentions are. If the collateral is on a 30 hold we recommend you recover as soon as possible.

The next notice you will receive will be from the impounding tow yard. This notice will be the lien sale notice. The impounding tow yard must file the lien sale notice within the first 16 days of impound, and send this notice to you by certified mail. If the impounding tow yard fails in the time limit, their ability to collect storage fees is limited.

If you recover your collateral within the first 15 days you are not required to pay the \$75.00 - \$100.00 lien sale fee to the impounding tow yard.

The legal owner is exempt from paying any “Administration Fees” to the impounding tow yard. The city of Los Angeles has a new City Parking Tax that is placed on repossessed vehicles. This is a new tax that accrues daily and the legal owner is not exempt from paying this new tax.

To recover your collateral from the impounding tow yard you will need the following documents:

To the Police Dept:

1. Copy of the Title **and / or** Contract it’s one or the other not both, most Police depts. do not follow the law and ask for both. We ask you send both to expedite the recovery and we will deal with them after we recover your collateral.
2. Hold harmless made out to the police dept, with the recovery agency name and the name of the recovery agent in the letter. (see our sample Hold Harmless letter) This letter is not required by law, but Police depts. insist on it anyhow.
3. If your credit union has had a name change you will also need the National Credit Union Administration official Name change document.

To the impounding tow yard:

1. Copy of the Title **and** / **or** Contract it's one or the other not both, most impounding tow yards. do not follow the law and ask for both. We ask you send both to expedite the recovery and we will deal with them after we recover your collateral.
2. Hold harmless made out to the impounding tow yard, with the recovery agency name and the name of the recovery agent in the letter. (see our sample Hold Harmless letter) This letter is not required by law, but impounding tow yards insist on it anyhow.
3. If your credit union has had a name change you will also need the National Credit Union Administration official Name change document.

30 Day Hold Impound:

If your collateral is impounded with a 30 day hold, the recovery agency may be required by some police depts. to sign an affidavit that the vehicle will not be released back to the your customer until after the 30 days have expired. (Police Dept Policy not a law).

Excessive Parking Tickets Impound:

If your collateral was impounded due to excessive parking tickets, you the legal owner are not liable for the fees generated by the parking tickets to recover your collateral however, In consideration of the release of this vehicle to the legal owner without payment of the outstanding parking penalties, you the legal owner acknowledges the parking bureau shall have a lien on any surplus that remains upon sale of the vehicle to which the registered owner is or may be entitled, as security for the full amount of the parking penalties for all notices of parking violations issued for the vehicle and for any local administrative charges imposed pursuant to CVC 22850.5.

The process to receive the release from the parking bureau is a simple form. (Sample in this booklet).

Private Party Impounds:

Private Party Impounds also known as PPI, typically do not need a release from the police dept. This type of impound is most likely due to your customer illegally parking on private property. All laws are the same regarding a PPI.

Complements of Action Auto Recovery – RA 641
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