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Impounded vehicle law changes effective Sept 7th 2007

California Vehicle Code §§14602.6, 14602.7 and 22850.5

These sections strictly control the types of documents repossessioners must produce in order to obtain the release of a vehicle from a police impound. Unfortunately, some storage yards acting on behalf of a law enforcement agency continue to demand more documentation than required by law. This effectively delays the release of vehicles from impound and increases storage costs for debtors. Our amendment clarified that the same rules apply to all involved in the impound process

The impounding agency, within two working days of impoundment, shall send a notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the legal owner of the vehicle, at the address obtained from the department, informing the owner that the vehicle has been impounded. Failure to notify the legal owner within two working days shall prohibit the impounding agency from charging for more than 15 days' impoundment when the legal owner redeems the impounded vehicle

No lien sale processing fees shall be charged to the legal owner who redeems the vehicle prior to the 15th day of impoundment.

The legal owner or the legal owner's agent presents a copy of the assignment, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 7500.1 of the Business and Professions Code, and any **ONE** of the following a **certificate of repossession** for the vehicle, a **security agreement** for the vehicle, **or title** showing proof of legal ownership for the vehicle. Any documents presented may be originals, photocopies, or facsimile copies, or may be transmitted electronically. The law enforcement agency, impounding agency, or any person acting on behalf of those agencies shall **NOT** require any documents other than those specified in 22850.5.

Now if we can just get the above to follow the law!

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