

CITY OF EUREKA

Category: PUBLIC SAFETY

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Subject: Abandoned Vehicles

Date Adopted: January 1, 1976

File Number 5.41

POLICY OBJECTIVE

To clarify procedures to be followed when handling reports of abandoned vehicles.

ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITY

Chief of Police

APPLICABILITY

Applicable to all vehicles abandoned upon public or private property.

PROCEEDURES

1. The person taking the complaint should note location and, if possible, make, model, color, and license number of the vehicle. In addition, the name of the reporting party, their phone number and address should be recorded.
2. All complaints should be forwarded to the Police Department through Dispatch at 441-4044.
3. Records/Communication will check for registration and stolen information.
4. If stolen, Officer is sent immediately to recover. If no, information is forwarded to Vehicle Abatement.
5. If a health hazard is noted *i.e. leaking fuel, missing engine, transmission, wheels, tires, doors, windshield etc.*, vehicle can be towed immediately
6. Vehicle is checked and marked, courtesy notice left on vehicle.
7. After 3 days, citation may be issued for 72-hour parking. (Eureka Municipal Code violation)
8. Letters to registered owner and legal owners are sent. By state law, must then wait 10 days minimum (15 utilized for out-of state) before taking further action.
9. If vehicle still not moved after 10 days, (15 for out of state) tow order given to tow company. Towing company will move as they have time within 2-3 days.

NOTE: If vehicle moved at any stage, back to step 1.

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