



ANDERSON COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

GO - 207

GENERAL ORDERS

VEHICLE TOWING AND IMPOUNDMENT

PURPOSE:

This policy establishes guidelines:

1. For orderly and efficient operation of a county-wide wrecker service rotation system;
2. To assure equitable treatment to all wrecker service agencies that meet and maintain service standards established by the Sheriff's Office; and
3. To ensure prompt, fair, and efficient accommodation to all citizens and agencies requiring wrecker services.

PROCEDURE:

Wrecker services participating in the "**Wrecker Rotation Plan**" are selected:

1. After meeting stringent qualifying requirements established by the South Carolina Highway Patrol
2. After passing an on-site inspection conducted by Special Operations

Anderson County Emergency Services is responsible for maintaining, updating, and supervising the wrecker list and for assuring Communications has a current list at all times.

Deputies who receive requests from citizens for wrecker service are to advise the party involved that a Wrecker Rotation System is used by the Anderson County Sheriff's Office. Under **no** circumstances are employees of the Sheriff's Office to suggest the services of a wrecker business. If an operator or owner of a vehicle specifically requests a certain wrecker service, the deputy involved is to notify Communications, who will make immediate contact, if possible, with the service requested.

If no particular wrecker service is specified, Communications will notify the wrecker(s) needed from the rotation list. The deputy is advised the identity of the assigned wrecker. The deputy is to ensure each vehicle is released to the appropriate wrecker service.

If the Sheriff's Office is towing a vehicle, a **Vehicle Impoundment and Inventory Record** form is to be carefully completed by the on-scene deputy and signed by the wrecker driver. Wrecker drivers receive a copy from the on-scene deputy who will forward the original along with other required investigative reports for processing through normal administrative channels. Sheriff's Office policy dictates all closed or locked containers found during inventory searches shall be inventoried. (*Florida v Wells, U.S. 1990*)

If unsatisfactory service or lack of cooperation is experienced with any wrecker business, a report detailing the issue involved is to be submitted to respective Division Commanders for further investigation. Division Commanders are to forward comments and recommendations to Administrative Services for corrective action.

When a deputy has a vehicle towed, a letter is to be mailed to the registered owner, if known, indicating:

1. The location of the vehicle
2. The description of the vehicle
3. The name of the deputy who towed the vehicle

Approved by:
John S. Skipper, Jr., Sheriff