

## I. Criteria for Impounding Vehicles Driven by Unlicensed Drivers

### A. Ohio Revised Code and City of Springfield Codified Ordinances

Vehicles may be impounded if criteria outlined in these laws are met.

### B. Examples of Impound Criteria

- Wrongful Entrustment of a Motor Vehicle
- Prior Conviction for Driving Under Suspension (within the past 3 years)
  - Vehicle must be registered to the driver.
- Driving Under OVI Suspension
  - Vehicle must be registered to the driver.

### C. Court-Ordered Immobilization

When court-ordered immobilization applies, police officers may impound vehicles via a "police tow."

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## II. Types of Vehicle Tows

### A. Police Tows

- **Definition:** Police-ordered impounds.
- **Tow Report:** Officers complete a tow sheet, which is submitted to the Traffic Unit, scanned, and filed.
- **Examples of Police Tow Reasons:**
  - Vehicle involved in a crime.
  - Hit-and-run accident involvement.
  - Stolen or recovered stolen vehicle.
  - Driver without a valid license.
  - Parking violations

### B. Non-Preference (Non-Pref) Tows

- **Definition:** Tows arranged by the driver or their designated tow company (not police-ordered).
- **Examples of Non-Pref Tows:**
  - Illegally parked or blocking traffic.

- Vehicle disabled in an accident.
  - **Process:** Driver selects a tow company, or an officer arranges a non-pref tow.
  - **Dispatch Rotation:** Six local tow companies are on a non-pref list, rotated by dispatch to ensure equal distribution.
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### **III. Vehicle Release to Valid Drivers**

#### **A. Valid Driver Option:**

If an unlicensed driver cannot drive, the vehicle can be released to a valid driver designated by the driver.

#### **B. Situations for Vehicle Release:**

When the criteria outlined in the Ohio Revised Code and City ordinances are not met.

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### **IV. Non-Preference Tow Records**

#### **A. Officer Responsibility:**

Officers do not complete paperwork for non-pref tows.

#### **B. Record Keeping:**

The Traffic Unit does not maintain records for non-pref tows.

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### **V. Summary of Actions Taken with Unlicensed Drivers**

#### **A. Vehicle Options:**

- Police tow (if criteria are met).
- Non-pref tow (if vehicle is illegally parked or disabled).
- Release to valid driver.
- Leave vehicle at the scene (if legally parked).

#### **B. Unlicensed Drivers:**

Unlicensed drivers are not allowed to drive away following officer contact.

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