

PRIVATE PROPERTY TOWING
SELECTED CHANGES IN NEW CALIFORNIA VEHICLE CODE 22658

- 22658(a)(1): Contract required for General Authorization. Tow signs require name and phone number of each tow company with General Authorization.
- 22658(b): Tow driver must ask the authorized signer if they know who the vehicle owner is so he can notify that person why their vehicle was towed and where it is stored.
- 22658(f): Private property owner must notify police within one hour of removal from private property.
- 22658(g)(1)(B): Driver must “immediately and unconditionally” release a vehicle upon request of the vehicle owner that is “not yet removed from private property”.
- 22658(h): The tow driver may charge ½ the regular tow Drop Fee once the vehicle is coupled to the tow truck, but not yet removed from the property. The regular tow charge may only be imposed after the vehicle has been removed and is in transit.
- 22658(i)(1)(A): The charge for towing and storage is excessive if it exceeds (i) that which the local law enforcement charges for rotation rates, or (ii) that which the California allows for rotation in that region.
- 22658(j): A person charging more than is allowed is liable to four times the amount charged.
- 22658(k)(1): Tow company must accept major credit cards.
- 22658(l)(1)(A): Language for EXCEPTION for 15 units or less. Authorized signer does not have to be in the tow arena, but must be present on the property.
- 22658(l)(B)(i): The tow driver must have the full V.I.N., along with other information, on the tow tag before the authorized signer signs the tow tag.
- 22658(l)(B)(iv): Authorized signer must disclose to the driver the time they first observed the violation.
- 22658(l)(C)(ii): Authorized signers information is REDACTED. Copies or receipts to the vehicle owner no longer show the signature of authorized signer.
- 22658(l)(C)(iii): Tow company shall provide a notice to the vehicle owner in two languages with the phone number of the local law enforcement agency if they feel they were wrongfully towed.
- 22658(l)(D): Tow company is required to wait one hour before removal of vehicle from property described in CVC22953.
- 22658(l)(E)(2): Vehicle owner must receive copy of General Tow photo before payment.
- 22658(m)(3): Tow company must notify local police authority within 30 minutes from time of removal from private property.
- 22658(n)(1)(A): Private property must not exceed 10 miles radius from tow yard.
- 22658(n)(3): Tow company is required to provide a pay telephone.