



Subject: Snowbound Vehicle Removal		
Date issued: 03-09-01	Effective Date: 10-15-10	Revision Number: 3

POLICY:

There is a procedure in place for when there has been a heavy snowfall. Heavy snowfalls impact on the ability of local residents to travel throughout the city in a safe manner. There are limitations placed on our emergency service vehicles during and after these storms. The removal of snow and the clearing of the roadways are hampered by the large volume of vehicles left buried in the snow along the curblines.

PROCEDURE:

Beginning 48 hours after a heavy snowfall and if a Snow Emergency has not already been declared:

MEMBER:

1. Make every effort to ticket and remove any vehicles found in the member's area of assignment, when it is established (based on the conditions of the snow around the vehicle), that the vehicle has not been moved and is considered abandoned in accordance with Racine City Ordinance #42-182.
 - a. Upon arrival at the site of a violation have Communications send a tow truck.
 - b. Complete an Abandoned Vehicle Parking Ticket ensuring that there is a complaint number assigned to the case, and placed on the ticket.
2. Follow the protocols established in Procedure #807 (Impounding of Motor Vehicles) to properly impound the vehicle.
3. You are not required to do a Supplementary Incident Report (PP95A) when impounding a vehicle under these circumstances.

COURTS

SUPERVISOR:

Assess the condition of the Impound Lot for accessibility.

1. If snow removal is necessary to make room for anticipated vehicles contact the Street Maintenance Supervisor to ask that the lot be cleared.
2. If the Street Maintenance Supervisor can not provide timely assistance, this matter shall be treated as an "unusual or noteworthy occurrence" and the Senior Police Department Staff should be notified per Procedure #212.

SHIFT

COMMANDERS:

1. Direct the members of their respective shifts to ticket and tow vehicles determined to be snowbound and abandoned, as evidenced by the snow deposited on or around the vehicle.
2. Coordinate their efforts to ensure that each shift's geographical areas of responsibility are addressed in addition to the normal call-for-service requirements.
 - a. First Shift personnel – north side, east/west and diagonal streets
 - b. Second Shift personnel – south side, east/west and diagonal streets
 - c. Third Shift personnel – north & south side, north/south streets

NOTE:

The First Shift Commander shall monitor the progress of the operation and beginning 72 hrs after the snowfall, shall submit daily reports to the Chief of Police. This will continue until all snowbound vehicles have been removed from the streets. The removal of snowbound vehicles in alleys and municipal lots are a low priority item and shall be handled as "complaint only" actions.

RELATED

PROCEDURE:

- [212 – Reporting of Major, Unusual, or Noteworthy Occurrences](#)
- [807 – Impounding Motor Vehicles](#)
- [809 – Release or Disposal of Impounded Vehicles](#)

RELATED

ORDINANCE:

- [Table of Contents](#)
- 42-182 – Abandoned Vehicles