

Sec. 14-137-108. Notice to police and owner concerning non-consensual tow of a motor vehicle from private property, and notice upon sale or disposition

(a) When a motor vehicle which has been left, without authorization, on private property, is towed or removed by a tower upon request of the owner or lessee in possession of the property, the tower or storage facility shall notify the local police department in the time required by section 14-145 of the general statutes. Such notice may be given by telephone if the tower or storage facility maintains a written record including the name of the person contacted. The vehicle shall be completely identified including make, model, year, color, and, to the extent available, its registration number, VIN, and the name and address of the registered owner and/or lessee.

(b) No operator of a storage facility shall charge a storage fee for the time that a motor vehicle is stored prior to giving the notification to the local police department in accordance with subsection (a).

(c) If the motor vehicle towed from private property is not claimed within forty-eight (48) hours, the tower or storage facility shall complete the designated portions of DMV Form "Motor Vehicle Notice of Tow" and shall mail a copy of the said Form by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner and to all lienholders of record.

(d) If the motor vehicle is not claimed by its owner or lessee within the time periods specified in subsection (e) of section 14-150 of the general statutes, the tower or the storage facility where such motor vehicle is stored may sell or dispose of it in accordance with the provisions of subsections (g), (h) and (i) of section 14-150 of the general statutes. Notification shall include notice to the motor vehicle owner, to all lienholders of record, and to the commissioner. Notice of intent to sell shall be provided to the commissioner by returning, with the signature of the tower or storage facility under penalty of false statement, the DMV Form "Notice of Intent to Sell". The notice to the commissioner shall include evidence that notice has been given by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner and to all lienholders of record at least five (5) days before the date of sale. Upon receipt of such notice of intent, the commissioner shall make such notice available as a public record.

(e) Any tower or storage facility which sells a motor vehicle in accordance with this section shall report such sale to the commissioner as provided in section 14-150-5 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. The tower or storage facility shall also issue to the purchaser of the motor vehicle a completed and executed DMV Form "Affidavit of Compliance". DMV shall not register or title any such motor vehicle sold by a tower or storage facility unless the application for registration and title is accompanied by the duly executed "Affidavit of Compliance".

(Adopted effective December 8, 1997)