



Vehicle Request for Show Cause Hearing Request Form

Circle one: **Police Tow** **Private Tow** **Revenue Authority Tow** **Official Use Impound#** _____

*NOTE: Requesting a Show Cause Hearing does not exempt you from paying impound/storage fees incurred at the time you reclaim your vehicle. Please be advised that storage/impound fees accumulate daily. Per Section 26-142.12 of the Prince George's County Code, an owner must reclaim the impounded vehicle within 21 days of the impound. As of the 22nd day, the owner has waived all rights, title and interest in that vehicle. If you believe the impoundment of your vehicle was illegal, please complete this form and forward to the address noted below:

****PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY****

NAME:

_____|_____
FIRST LAST

ADDRESS: _____|_____
STREET APT. #

_____|_____|_____
CITY STATE ZIP CODE

CONTACT: _____|_____
PHONE EMAIL

VEHICLE: _____|_____|_____
YEAR MAKE MODEL

_____|_____|_____
TAG STATE TAG NUMBER VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ("VIN")

IMPOUND : _____|_____|_____
DATE OF TOW TOW COMPANY LOCATION OF TOW

BRIEF EXPLANATION OF TOW: _____

I certify that the information provided above is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and is provided in good faith. I understand that completing and signing this form initiates a hearing request to determine probable cause for the towing of my vehicle as prescribed under Subtitle 26-142.10 or 26-169 of the Prince George's County Code. I fully realize that if I am not the registered owner of the vehicle, I carry the burden of establishing my right to possession of said vehicle. I further understand the Hearing Officer's decision is final and in no way, affects and criminal proceeding about the impoundment in question.

_____|_____
SIGNATURE OF PERSON REQUESTING HEARING DATE

THIS FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE IMPOUND NOTIFICATION LETTER OR HEARING REQUEST WILL BE DENIED. For additional information, please call 301-883-5810 or e-mail to : pgctowing@co.pg.md.us. Our address is 1801 McCormick Drive, 5th Floor, Largo, MD 20774

Show Cause Hearings: Show Cause Hearings are to determine whether a vehicle was properly towed and impounded under the provision of Subtitle Divisions 5 and 26 of the County Code.

- This form entitles you to request a show cause hearing into the impoundment of your vehicle.
- If you elect to contest the impoundment, you will be required to appear and present testimony at the hearing.
- If you are not the registered owner, you must have a note from the owner authorizing you to represent them at the hearing.

Reclaiming your vehicle:

- If your vehicle has been impounded, please make sure every effort to retrieve it from storage as soon as possible. Impound/storage fees are being incurred daily.
- By retrieving your vehicle, you do not forfeit your right to the hearing should you so request it and you may save yourself the additional assessment of storage fees and possibly other expenses if it is found that the tow/impound was legal.
- Not reclaiming your vehicle within 21 days after the impound notice being mailed, waives all the owners "right, title, and interest in the vehicle". (sec. 26 - 142.12)
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The Hearing Officer:

- The hearing officer is only empowered to rule on if the vehicle was legally towed and impounded. (Sec. 26. 142. 10 © and Sec. 26 - 169 ©).
- Should the hearing officer rule that your vehicle was towed without probable cause (illegally) you are entitled to receive reimbursement for towing and storage fees already paid or a fraction thereof.
- Should the hearing officer determine there was a probable cause (legally) for your vehicle being impounded, impound/storage fees paid will not be refunded.
- The decision of the hearing officer is final. however, you have the right to file a claim in civil court.

Probable Cause for Police and/or County Vehicular Impoundment:

- Abandoned vehicles are prohibited -
- A vehicle is classified as abandoned if it is inoperable and left on public property; illegally on public property; displaying invalid registration plates; or displaying registration plates of another vehicle for more than 48 hours.
- A vehicle is classified as abandoned if it has remained on private property for more than 48 hours and is inoperable; displaying invalid registration plates; displaying registration plates of another vehicle; or partially dismantled, wrecked or junked.
- Impoundment without prior notice to the owner -
- Vehicles can be impounded without prior notice to the owner if it is impeding traffic flow (vehicular/pedestrian traffic flows); illegally parked; imposes an immediate danger to public safety; when a police officer believes vehicle constitutes evidence of a crime; when the operator of vehicle has been taken into custody; parked in a reserved parking space in violation of Sec. 26-142.01; or when a vehicle is classified abandoned.

Please let our office know how to best meet your needs as we comply with the Americans with disabilities act in making "reasonable accommodations" to promote and encourage your participation.

**Prince George's County
Department of the Environment
1801 McCormick Drive, Suite 500; Largo, MD 20774
301-883-5810**