

Procedure

4.9

**EFFECTIVE
DATE
12-29-17**

Eugene Police Department



Recovered Stolen Vehicles

4.9.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This procedure outlines the proper steps for recovering a stolen vehicle. This procedure should be used in conjunction with *Policy 610 – Vehicle Tows and Inventories*.

4.9.2 RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROCEDURES

- a. Confirm the status and VIN of the vehicle with communications.
- b. Officers may return a recovered stolen vehicle to its owner at the scene if the vehicle is not needed as evidence and the owner can respond to the scene in a reasonable amount of time (normally 20 minutes or less). If the owner cannot respond and requests that you do so, you may leave the vehicle legally parked at the scene if, in your judgement, that is a reasonable option under the circumstances. If the vehicle is left at the scene, document in your report the name of the owner requesting that action.
- b. If the owner responds to take possession of the vehicle, have him/her sign the Evidence/Property Report as your receipt.
- c. If the vehicle is needed for evidence, or the vehicle cannot be returned to the owner or left at the scene, tow it.
- d. Notify communications of the vehicle disposition; recovered and returned to owner, towed, or left at the location.

4.9.3 NOTIFICATIONS

After an officer recovers a stolen vehicle, Communications will attempt to contact the registered owner (using the numbers provided on the signature sheet) or notify the originating agency. If Communications is unable to make this notification, Records will assume this responsibility. If Records is unsuccessful at making direct contact, they will send a letter to the owner referring them to the tow company.

David N. James
Interim Police Executive Director