



MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

610 – TOWING OF VEHICLES

GENERAL ORDER: 2025-61
ISSUED: December 16, 2025

EFFECTIVE: December 16, 2025

REVIEWED/APPROVED BY:
Assistant Chief Craig Sarnow
DATE: November 5, 2025

ACTION: Amends General Order 2024-46 (October 24, 2024)

WILEAG STANDARD(S): 6.2.14

ROLL CALL VERSION

Contains only changes to current policy.
For complete version of SOP, see SharePoint.

610.20 VEHICLE TOW CATEGORIES AND TOWING PROCEDURES (WILEAG 6.2.14)

I. RECKLESS DRIVING VEHICLE TOW

2. Members shall receive a tow number and complete a *Tow Authorization Report* in RMS utilizing “Unregistered” for the reason for the tow if he/she conducts a traffic stop of a vehicle or comes into contact with a vehicle involved in a crash investigation and:

b. Issues a citation for any of the violations listed below:

1. ~~Endangering Safety by Reckless Driving~~ ([Wis. Stat. § 346.62\(2\)](#))

12. Exceeding Zones / Posted Speed for 25 MPH or more ([Wis. Stat. § 346.57\(5\)](#))

23. Fleeing from Officer ([Wis. Stat. § 346.04\(2t\) or \(3\)](#))

34. Racing on Highway ([Wis. Stat. § 346.94\(2\)](#))

Note: The member must issue a citation for the registration violation and the violation indicated in subsection 1 – 43 above before receiving a tow number.

J. ~~RECKLESS DRIVING VEHICLE TOW~~ IMPOUNDING VEHICLES USED IN RECKLESS DRIVING OFFENSES – [MILWAUKEE CITY ORDINANCE 101-24.9](#)

1. ~~Members shall receive a tow number and complete a *Tow Authorization Report* in RMS utilizing “Other” for the reason for the tow and write “Reckless Driving Repeat Offender” in the space next to “Other” if he/she conducts a traffic stop of a vehicle or comes into contact with a vehicle involved in a crash investigation and all of the following requirements are met:~~

a. ~~The driver is issued a citation for Reckless Driving~~ ([Wis. Stat. § 346.62](#))

b. ~~The driver of the vehicle is the owner of the vehicle.~~

- c. ~~The driver of the vehicle has a prior conviction for Reckless Driving ([Wis. Stat. § 346.62](#)).~~
 - d. ~~The driver of the vehicle has not fully paid the imposed forfeiture for a Reckless Driving ([Wis. Stat. § 346.62](#)) citation. Members may verify if a forfeiture was paid by using the Milwaukee Municipal Court Case Information [website](#) (for citations issued by the Milwaukee Police Department).~~
2. ~~An inventory search shall be completed in accordance with 610.05.~~
 3. ~~Members shall provide the legal name of the driver to the Parking Information Desk when requesting the tow.~~
 4. ~~The member shall document in the narrative of their citation how each of the above requirements for the reckless driving vehicle tow was met.~~

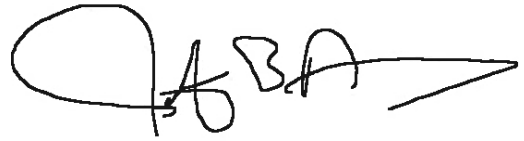
If a member encounters a vehicle and cites a driver in violation of [Wis. Stat. § 346.62](#) (Reckless Driving), the member shall:

1. First make a reasonable effort to determine if the vehicle has been reported stolen. If the member determines that the vehicle has been reported as stolen, the member shall make a reasonable attempt to contact the owner to recover the vehicle.
 - a. If the member is unable to contact the owner, they shall tow the vehicle in accordance with SOP 610.20(A) and not under [Milwaukee City Ordinance 101-24.9](#).
 - b. If the vehicle is reported as stolen, the member shall have the vehicle processed in accordance with SOP 630.15(B) Vehicle Thefts, Prior Authority Vehicle Use, and Theft by Fraud.
2. If the vehicle was not reported stolen, members shall receive a tow number and complete a *Tow Authorization Report* in RMS utilizing "Other" for the reason for the tow and write "Reckless Driving Offender" in the space next to "Other" if he/she conducts a traffic stop of a vehicle or comes into contact with a vehicle involved in a crash investigation and a violation of [Wis. Stat. § 346.62](#) (Reckless Driving) occurred.
3. An inventory search shall be completed in accordance with 610.05 (Towing of Vehicles).
4. Members shall provide the legal name of the driver to the Parking Information Desk when requesting the tow.

N. SNOW EMERGENCY

1. A snow emergency shall be declared by the commissioner of the Department of Public Works. The Department of Public Works will notify the ~~Milwaukee Police Department~~ Technical Communications Division Supervisor at extension [REDACTED] Department of

Emergency Communications (DEC). ~~The Technical Communications Division supervisor shall then~~ DEC will notify the applicable department work locations via teletype.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.B. Norman', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

JEFFREY B. NORMAN
CHIEF OF POLICE

JBN:mfk