# Abandoned Vehicle Violations

## 507.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides procedures for the Fargo Police Department's recording and storage of vehicles abandoned in violation of abandoned vehicle laws (N.D.C.C. § 23.1-15-01 et seq.).

### 507.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Abandoned motor vehicle** - A motor vehicle is abandoned if (N.D.C.C. § 23.1-15-01):

(a) It is on public property for more than 48 hours:
    (a) Illegally, or
    (b) It lacks parts that are essential to its function (e.g., motor, drive train, wheels).
(b) It is on private property:
    (a) Without consent of the person in control of the property.
(c) It has been voluntarily surrendered by its owner for disposal.

## 507.2 MARKING VEHICLES

Vehicles on public roadways suspected of being abandoned in violation of North Dakota laws shall be documented via the computer aided dispatch (CAD) system. No case number is required at this time.

A visible chalk, crayon or paint mark should be placed on the left rear tire tread at the fender level unless the vehicle is missing tires or other vehicle conditions or the weather prevents marking. Any deviation in markings shall be documented via the CAD system.

If a marked vehicle has been moved or the markings have been removed during a 48-hour investigation period, the vehicle shall be marked again for the 48-hour abandonment violation and a CAD update completed.

### 507.2.1 MARKED VEHICLE FOLLOW-UP

Community Service officers shall be responsible for the follow-up investigation of all abandoned violations noted in the CAD system.

## 507.3 VEHICLE STORAGE

Any vehicle in violation should be stored and a vehicle impound report shall be completed in accordance with the Vehicle Towing and Release Policy.

### 507.3.1 VEHICLE STORAGE REPORTING

The vehicle impound report shall be submitted via the CAD/RMS to the Records Unit immediately following the storage of the vehicle. It shall be the responsibility of Records Unit personnel to process the information from the vehicle impound report to ensure the contract towing agent has

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access to the impound information.The contracted tow agent is responsible for attempting to notify the last known registered owner as specified in the Vehicle Towing and Release Policy.

**507.4 REVISION DATE 03/25/2025**

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