



## GREENLEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE VEHICLE IMPOUNDMENT AND HEARINGS

### VEHICLE IMPOUNDMENT

The Greenlee County Sheriff's Office can impound your vehicle, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes §28-3511, if any of the following occur:

- The driver's license is revoked for any reason.
- The driver has never been issued a driver's license or permit in Arizona or any other jurisdiction.
- The driver is arrested for extreme or aggravated DUI.
- The driver is under the legal drinking age and has any amount of alcohol in the body.
- The driver was operating a vehicle without a certified ignition interlock device when they are legally required to have such device.
- Suspicion of Human Smuggling
- Street Racing

### RETRIEVEING YOUR VEHCLCE

Vehicles towed under this statute are impounded for 20 days. However, your vehicle may be released early if the following circumstances are met.

- The owner presents proof that the owner's driving privileges have been reinstated.
- The vehicle was reported stolen at the time it was impounded.
- The vehicle is subject to bailment and was driven by an employee of a business.
- The owner or the owner's agent was not the person driving the vehicle at the time of impoundment.
- The owner or the owner's agent is in the business of renting vehicles without drivers and the vehicle is registered.
- The vehicle is registered, insured, and roadworthy.
- The vehicle hasn't had a change in ownership since the impoundment.

### IMPOUND HEARING

To obtain your vehicle before the end of 20 days, you must schedule an Impound Hearing. Appointments are made by calling the Sheriff's Office at (928) 865-4149, ask to speak with impound.

- Hearings are available Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 5 p.m. If a hearing is needed outside normal hearing times arrangements can be made if requested.
- Hearings must be scheduled within 10day of the impoundment.
- An Appointment for a Hearing will only be made if the vehicle and driver meet the requirements for release.
- An administrative fee of \$150 will be due at the time of the hearing. The fee can only be paid by money order (made out to the Greenlee County Sheriff's Office), or cash.
- Hearings can only take place with the registered owner(s) of the vehicle.
- A lien holder or repossession agent as identified by MVD record may also request a hearing before the end of the 20 day period.
- After the hearing the owner will receive a form that will allow them to claim the vehicle from the tow company.
- The owner is still responsible for paying any towing and storage fees. These arrangements will have to be made by the owner with the tow company.
- After the 20-day period you will still have to appear at the Sheriff's Office to receive a impound release for your vehicle.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

By Arizona law, tow companies are not required to release vehicles outside of normal business hours. Arizona law allows tow companies to file for abandoned title to seek ownership of the vehicle if it is left in the tow yard, unclaimed, for more than 10 days past the 20 day impoundment period.

Contact the tow company directly if you have difficulty paying the tow and storage fees, to make arrangements and retain ownership of your vehicle.