



## **Lakewood Police Department Information for Suspended/Revoked Drivers To Redeem an Impounded Vehicle**

Because your driver's license is suspended, the vehicle you were driving was impounded on \_\_\_\_\_ and will be held for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ days. The requirements of RCW 46.55.120 and LMC 10.28 must be satisfied prior to redeeming the vehicle at the end of the hold. These requirements include:

- a. Within five (5) days of the impound date and at the request of the tow truck operator, a person who desires to redeem the vehicle at the end of the impound period shall post a security deposit of not more than one-half the applicable storage rate for each day of the proposed impound period to ensure payment of the removal, towing, and storage fees. If the security deposit is not posted within five (5) days of the impound date, the vehicle will immediately be processed and sold at auction as an abandoned vehicle pursuant to RCW 46.55.130(1). If the abandoned vehicle auction is held the vehicle shall be sold to the highest bidder who is **NOT** the registered owner. The registered owner is ineligible to purchase this vehicle at the abandoned vehicle auction.
- b. The security deposit may be paid and must be accepted anytime up to twenty four (24) hours prior to the beginning of the abandoned vehicle option.
- c. Any security deposit paid shall be credited against the final bill for removal, towing, and storage of the vehicle.
- d. The tow truck operator may accept other sufficient security in lieu of the security deposit.

### **Driver of the vehicle is not the registered owner:**

- The vehicle may be **redeemed only by** the registered owner, legal owner, a person authorized in writing by the registered owner, vehicle insurance company, or by someone who has purchased the vehicle with proof of purchase (RCW 46.55.120(1)(a)). They may go to the towing company at the end of the impound period and must pay the remainder of the towing and storage fees.

### **Driver of the vehicle is the registered owner:**

- If you were driving with a suspended license **and** are also the registered owner of the vehicle; all outstanding penalties, fines, or forfeitures owed by you to the City or court must be satisfied. Because clearing up outstanding penalties takes time, you should start long before the 30 or 60 day hold is complete. When you have cleared all your outstanding penalties, you will be given an order of release to redeem the vehicle. You must have that form with you to redeem the vehicle. Take this form to the tow company on the day the hold expires, along with a valid driver's license and proof of insurance. The remaining towing and storage fees must be paid to redeem the vehicle.