



# PHILADELPHIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## CITIZEN INFORMATION BULLETIN #2 “LIVE STOP” PROGRAM

1. It is policy of the Philadelphia Police Department (PPD), to enforce the impoundment provisions of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, known as “Live Stop” in a reasonable and equitable manner without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, disability, financial status, or sexual orientation.
2. Under no circumstances shall the occupants of any vehicle impounded be abandoned on any city street or highway. Specifically, it shall be the duty of every investigating officer to insure the safety of these occupants by offering to either transport the occupants home or to another address if located within a reasonable distance, transporting the individuals to the nearest police district where the occupants can safely make alternate arrangements, or if requested, by transporting the occupants to the nearest public transportation hub.
3. While the safety of the occupants is a paramount concern to the PPD, the occupants have the right to refuse transportation. Barring exigent circumstances, officers will never transport any individual against his or her will.
4. Any vehicle may be impounded when it is determined, during a lawful vehicle investigation that the operator is in violation of any or all of the following statutes:
  - A. Driving Unregistered Vehicle Prohibited.
  - B. Operation Following Suspension of Registration
  - C. Drivers Required to be Licensed
  - D. Driving While Operating Privilege is Suspended or Revoked

NOTE: Impoundment is in addition to any fines and penalties for the underlying offense.
5. When it is determined during the course of a lawful vehicle investigation that the operator is in violation of any provisions identified above, the investigating officer shall:
  - A. Confirm the status of the operator’s license or lack thereof and/or the vehicle’s registration.
  - B. Upon verification of the subject violations, the investigating Officer will inform the operator that the vehicle is being impounded by Philadelphia Traffic Court and the reason for the impoundment.
6. The vehicle owner must contact the Philadelphia Traffic Court, located at 800 Spring Garden Street, telephone (215) 686-1680, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM. The owner must bring his or her operator license, vehicle registration card, and proof of insurance. **ONLY THE PHILADELPHIA TRAFFIC COURT HAS THE AUTHORITY TO RELEASE AN IMPOUNDED VEHICLE.**

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