

COLUMBIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Policy Manual

524 ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLES

524.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides procedures for the removal, recording and storage of vehicles abandoned in violation of abandoned vehicle laws (§ 304.155, RSMo; § 304.157, RSMo).

524.2 MARKING VEHICLES

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

A visible chalk, crayon or other temporary mark should be placed on the left rear tire tread pointing straight up unless the vehicle is missing tires or other vehicle conditions or the weather prevents marking. Any deviation in markings shall be documented via the computer aided dispatch (CAD) system. The appropriate abandoned vehicle notice shall be left on the vehicle in a conspicuous place, listing the VIN or registration, date, time, and officer.

If a marked vehicle has been moved or the markings have been removed during a 24-hour investigation period, the vehicle shall be re-marked.

524.3 VEHICLE STORAGE

Any vehicle in violation shall be stored by the authorized towing service and a Crime Inquiry and Inspection Report shall be completed by the officer authorizing the storage of the vehicle.