

INFORMATION REGARDING VEHICLES SEIZED OR IMPOUNDED BY THE CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

To Obtain Release of an Impounded Vehicle:

- If your vehicle has been impounded pursuant to municipal ordinance of the City of Chicago, you may secure the release of your impounded vehicle by appearing in person or through a designated representative at **400 West Superior, Department of Finance, Revenue Payment Center**, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (*Monday through Friday, and Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., closed Sundays and holidays*) with proof of ownership (title, vehicle registration or bill of sale) and valid identification (driver's license or state identification card). Narcotics (Unlawful Drugs) impoundments require an additional release by the Chicago Police Department.
- An impounded vehicle may be released upon payment of an administrative penalty, plus \$150 for towing and \$20 per day for the first five days of storage and \$35 per day thereafter. For vehicles over 8,000 pounds the fees are \$250 for towing and \$60 per day for storage for the first five days and \$100.00 per day thereafter. Payment may be made by cash, credit card, or certified/cashier's check. **Fees are subject to change without notice.**
- **To obtain the release of your vehicle, you must ensure that your vehicle is not subject to forfeiture.**

Administrative Hearing Process:

You may also request a hearing to challenge the administrative penalty and the imposition of towing and storage charges:

- **PRELIMINARY ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING.** In accordance with Section 2-14-132 of the Municipal Code of Chicago ([click here](#)), the registered owner of a vehicle on the date of impoundment may request a preliminary impoundment hearing to determine whether there is probable cause for impoundment. A request for preliminary hearing must be made **within 15 days** of the impoundment at the **Information Desk of the Department of Administrative Hearings, 400 W. Superior, Monday through Friday (9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., closed weekends and holidays)**.
- **FULL ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING.** In accordance with Section 2-14-132 of the Municipal Code of Chicago ([click here](#)), the registered owner of a vehicle on the date of impoundment may contest the impoundment by filing a written request for a hearing with the Department of Administrative Hearings. The request may be filed in-person, by mail or faxed to **(312) 742-8248** no later than 15 days after the date that the owner notification was mailed by the City. If the owner received the notification of impoundment by personal service, the request for a hearing must be filed within 15 days of such service. In-person requests may be filed at the **Information Desk of the Department of Administrative Hearings, 400 W. Superior Street (9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., closed weekends and holidays)**, or **740 N. Sedgwick, 2nd Floor (9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed weekends and holidays)**. You may also mail your request to **740 N. Sedgwick, 2nd Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60654**. An owner who files a timely hearing request will be notified of their hearing date and time by mail. Request for hearing forms are available from the Department of Administrative Hearings.
- If the owner does not file a timely request for a full hearing, or if the owner requests a hearing but fails to appear at the scheduled hearing, a default finding of liability may be entered and an administrative penalty, storage, and towing fees may be assessed. If the administrative penalty and other fees are not paid in full **within 45 days** of a final judgment, the vehicle and its contents may be disposed of by the City.

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- **NOTICE OF VEHICLE REDEMPTION.** If you file a Motion to Set Aside a default judgment in a vehicle impoundment case more than 45 days after the date of the default judgment, or if you fail to redeem your car from the pound **within 45 days** of the entry of the default judgment, **your car may no longer be available for redemption.** Under Section 2-14-132(4) of the Municipal Code of Chicago ([click here](#)), any vehicle that remains in the auto pound more than 10 days after the expiration of time during which the owner of record may seek judicial review of a finding of liability (35 days) may be deemed unclaimed and **the vehicle and its contents may be disposed of by the City.** Even if your vehicle has been disposed of and cannot be redeemed, you may still be responsible for the administrative penalty, court costs, and towing and storage fees related to the impoundment. To verify that your vehicle is still available to be redeemed, please call the auto pound where your vehicle is impounded. Contact Pound 2 at **(773) 568-8495** or Pound 6 at **(773) 265-7605**.

State Law Forfeiture Process:

If your vehicle was seized for forfeiture under state law or impounded for unlawful drugs under authority of Section 7-24-225 of the Municipal Code of Chicago ([click here](#)), your vehicle will not be released until the City receives notice from the appropriate local, state or federal official that (i) forfeiture proceedings will not be instituted or (ii) forfeiture proceedings have concluded and there is a settlement or court order providing that the vehicle shall be returned to the owner of record. To find out whether your vehicle is subject to forfeiture, you may contact the Chicago Police Department at (312) 746-7146, Monday through Friday (8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., closed holidays).

If your vehicle is subject to forfeiture under Illinois law:

- A forfeiture probable cause hearing will be held **within 14 days** of the seizure of the vehicle at **Richard J. Daley Center, Room 1707, 50 W. Washington, Chicago, Illinois 60602.**
- Forfeiture probable cause hearings are held on **Mondays and Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.**, except on holidays. To learn the exact date of the forfeiture probable cause hearing, contact the Office of the Cook County State's Attorney at **(312) 603-6462**, Monday through Friday (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed holidays) or [click here](#) for a calendar of forfeiture probable cause hearings by date of seizure.
- For information regarding your rights, see the relevant Illinois statute for narcotics forfeitures ([click here](#) for 725 ILCS 150/3.5) and money laundering ([click here](#) for 720 ILCS 5/29-B-1(h)).
- Please note that the forfeiture procedures described in this paragraph are separate from, and in addition to, the City's administrative hearing procedures, described above. If your current address is different from the address on your vehicle registration, it is important that you report your new address to the Chicago Police Department at **(312) 746-7146** to ensure that all future notices about your rights and the status of your vehicle are sent to the correct address.

Contact phone numbers:

- *For questions regarding an **impoundment**, call the Vehicle Impoundment Unit at (312) 742-6121, Fax (312) 742-6150.*
- *For questions regarding an **administrative hearing**, call the Department of Administrative Hearings at (312) 742-8475.*
- *For questions regarding **forfeiture**, call the Office of the Cook County State's Attorney at (312) 603-6462.*
- *To contact the Chicago Police Department with questions concerning your impounded vehicle, call (312) 746-7146.*