

## 2003 ASSEMBLY BILL 758

1     **AN ACT** *to amend* 341.65 (2) (b) and 342.40 (3) (a); and *to create* 349.13 (5) (c)  
2             of the statutes; **relating to:** the removal by towing services of unregistered,  
3             abandoned, or illegally parked vehicles.

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*Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

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*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

4             **SECTION 1.** 341.65 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:  
5             341.65 (2) (b) Any municipal or university police officer, sheriff's deputy, county  
6             traffic patrolman, state traffic officer or conservation warden who discovers any  
7             unregistered motor vehicle located upon any highway may cause the motor vehicle  
8             to be immobilized with an immobilization device or removed to a suitable place of  
9             impoundment. Upon immobilization or removal of the motor vehicle, the officer or  
10            warden shall notify the sheriff or chief of police of the location of the immobilized or

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1 impounded motor vehicle and the reason for the immobilization or impoundment.  
2 Upon causing the removal of the motor vehicle by a towing service, the officer or  
3 warden shall, within 24 hours of ordering the removal, notify the towing service of  
4 the name and last-known address of the registered owner and all lienholders of  
5 record of the vehicle, unless the officer is employed by a municipality or county that  
6 has entered into a towing services agreement which requires the municipality or  
7 county to provide notice to such owner and lienholders of the towing.

8 **SECTION 2.** 342.40 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 342.40 (3) (a) Any municipal or university police officer, police officer appointed  
10 under s. 16.84 (2), sheriff's deputy, county traffic patrolman, state traffic officer or  
11 conservation warden who discovers any motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or mobile  
12 home on any public highway or private or public property which has been abandoned  
13 shall cause the vehicle to be removed to a suitable place of impoundment. Upon  
14 removal of the vehicle the officer or warden shall notify the sheriff or chief of police  
15 of the abandonment and of the location of the impounded vehicle. Upon causing the  
16 removal of the motor vehicle by a towing service, the officer or warden shall, within  
17 24 hours of ordering the removal, notify the towing service of the name and  
18 last-known address of the registered owner and all lienholders of record of the  
19 vehicle, unless the officer is employed by a municipality or county that has entered  
20 into a towing services agreement which requires the municipality or county to  
21 provide notice to such owner and lienholders of the towing.

22 **SECTION 3.** 349.13 (5) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

23 349.13 (5) (c) A traffic or police officer who requests removal of a vehicle under  
24 subs. (3) to (4) by a towing service shall, within 24 hours of requesting the removal,  
25 notify the towing service of the name and last-known address of the registered owner

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1 and all lienholders of record of the vehicle if the vehicle is to be removed to any  
2 location other than a public highway within one mile from the location from which  
3 the vehicle is to be removed and if the officer is not employed by a municipality or  
4 county that has entered into a towing services agreement which requires the  
5 municipality or county to provide notice to such owner and lienholders of the towing.

6 **SECTION 4. Initial applicability.**

7 (1) This act first applies to vehicles removed on the effective date of this  
8 subsection.

9 (END)