

PARKING VIOLATIONS - WHO DOES WHAT

Police officers on their own initiative can write a summons (ticket) for violations on city property and public streets but not on private property. Violations on private property must be requested by a private citizen.

THE FOLLOWING SUMMARIZES HOW PARKING VIOLATIONS ARE TREATED.

1. Citizen calls police to report:

A) Vehicle is parked on the street facing the wrong direction (against the flow) or

B) Vehicle is blocking the sidewalk (vehicles wheels are on the crosswalk).

The police will write, sign and place the summons on the vehicle. No signature on the summons or court appearance will be required by the complainant.

2. Citizen calls police to report that a vehicle is parked on the street but blocking their driveway (i.e. prevents citizen's vehicle from leaving their property).

Because the vehicle is on the street, the police will write, sign, place the summons on the vehicle and, if requested by the complainant, have the vehicle towed at the city's expense. No signature on the summons or court appearance will be required by the complainant.

3. Citizen calls police to report that a vehicle has illegally parked on their property (e.g., in their driveway)

A. If the nature of the offense is clear, the officer will write, sign and place the summons on the vehicle.

If requested by the complainant, the police will have the vehicle towed and the city will be responsible for the cost. No court appearance will be required by the complainant unless the summons is contested. The court will advise the complainant as to the date and the time of the hearing.

B. If the alleged violation is in any way in doubt, in place of a summons, the officer will ask the citizen to sign a "Non-indictable Complaint" form which will be placed on the vehicle. The complainant will be required to write, date and sign a statement about the situation. The complaint form and statement will be submitted by the police officer. The complainant will not be required to appear in court unless the summons is contested.

In this situation, if the complainant wants the car towed, the complainant must make the arrangements and will be responsible for towing costs and liable for any damages to the vehicle.

N. B. Procedures for noise complaints are different:

When the police do not witness a noise incident, they will ask the complainant if they want to sign a "Citizen's Complaint". As a result of signing the complaint, the complainant will be required to appear in court. The court will advise the complainant as to the date and the time of the hearing.