

## Arkansas Towing and Recovery Board 900 West Capitol Avenue, Suite 400 Little Rock, AR 72201

Phone: 501-682-3801

Sarah Huckabee Sanders Governor Daryl Bassett Secretary Paul Burnett

Director

October 1, 2023

Reference: Release of Personal Items

All Tow Companies,

Our office has received numerous complaints about Tow Companies refusing to release personal property or charging for the release personal property. By A.C.A §27-50-1208 you are required to release the personal property listed in the statute without charge.

## 27-50-1208. Possessory lien and notice to owners and lienholders.

- (a) (1) The towing and storage firm shall have a first priority possessory lien on the vehicle and its contents for all reasonable charges for towing, recovery, and storage for which the owner is liable.
- (2) (A) A possessory lien under this section attaches to not only the vehicle and its contents but also any trailer attached to the vehicle at the time it is towed and any contents of such trailer including, but not limited to, other vehicles or boats.
- (B) A lien under this section shall not extend to the following items, without limitation:
- (i) Personal or legal documents;
- (ii) Medications;
- (iii) Child-restraint seating;
- (iv) Wallets or purses and the contents of such;
- (v) Prescription eyeglasses;
- (vi) Prosthetics;
- (vii) Cell phones;
- (viii) Photographs; and
- (ix) Books.

(C) The items described in subdivision (a)(2)(B) of this section **shall be released without charge** by the towing and storage firm to the owner or operator of the motor vehicle or his or her duly authorized representative.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at 501-682-3801

Respectfully,

Paul Burnett, Director

Arkansas Towing and Recovery Board

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