



REMOVING UNAUTHORIZED VEHICLES FROM PRIVATE PROPERTY

California Assembly Bill 2210, authorized by Assembly member Jackie Goldberg and signed into law by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, makes substantive changes in California Vehicle Code 22658. These noteworthy revisions, effective January 1, 2010, are in addition to the changes incorporated in 2007 and increase owner and agent liabilities for improper towing. Also, a new section has been included which makes predatory towing practices a misdemeanor punishable by up to one year in jail, plus a \$2,500 fine.



As a result of these changes, I would like to offer the following two suggestions:

1. Consider suspending all towing operations until your legal counsel has had an opportunity to review the law and render a legal opinion and advice
2. Understand this law is a zero tolerance law and early indicators are that prosecutors plan to crack down at the maximum level allowed under the new statute

For your reference, the attached document includes:

- A list of changes in CVC 22658
- CVC 22658
- CVC 22953 removal of vehicles prohibited law
- Misunderstood Tow Laws
- Tow operator's guide to "Private Property Towing" under CVC 22658
- Tow company screening criteria
- "Private Property Towing" criminal penalties and civil liabilities

I hope this information helps you further understand a very complicated and significant issue. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact your Branch Manager directly to discuss.

Regards,

Ben Cordova
Chief Operating Officer

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