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Dennis Kidd, General Manager

COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS
LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICY

Policy No. 4850 Date Issued: June 1, 1996
Section: 4800 - Specific Procedures, Continued Date Revised: March 11, 2019
Accreditation Standards: None
SUBJECT: RECOVERED STOLEN VEHICLES
APPROVED: [Signature] L-2
Chairperson, Law Enforcement Users Subcommittee
APPROVED: [Signature]
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If an officer conducts a traffic stop, contacts a vehicle, or runs a registration check and the vehicle comes back as a stolen or felony vehicle, the dispatcher will:

- Using a single alert tone, advise the officer the vehicle is code 6 (repeating the license plate and vehicle description). Initiate and maintain radio silence until the officer advises the scene is code 4.
Send the closest, available cover unit immediately.
Confirm the vehicle is still outstanding with the originating agency.

If an officer confirms prior to running the vehicle registration that the vehicle is unoccupied and that they are code 4 the dispatcher will advise the officer the vehicle is code 6 (repeating the license plate and vehicle description) without the use of an alert tone.

Confirming a Stolen or Felony Vehicle

Whether the recovery is on an abandoned vehicle or during a car stop, ALWAYS contact the originating agency to confirm the vehicle is still stolen or wanted. When confirming a vehicle with the originating agency, obtain the following information.

- Any suspect information
- When the originating agency is not a User agency, advise the agency the vehicle is being towed and a CLETS locate will be sent as soon as possible.
 - The assigned officer is responsible for forwarding all necessary information for the CLETS locate/recovery.

Owner Locate

If a stolen vehicle is abandoned and the owner locates the vehicle, obtain the following information from the owner.

- Location of the vehicle
- Vehicle description including license plate number
 - Run for a hot check & registration to determine if the vehicle is still listed as stolen, originating agency, case number, etc.
- Advise the owner not to touch or drive the vehicle until an officer can respond to recover the vehicle.
- Confirm the vehicle is still outstanding with the originating agency
- RP name, home address, phone number

Dispatch one officer to respond to the scene to recover the vehicle. The assigned officer is responsible for forwarding all necessary information for the CLETS locate/recovery.

- If the owner is on scene and taking possession of the vehicle, immediately locate the vehicle in SVS.

Storage and Release of Recovered Stolen Vehicles

Whether the recovery is on an abandoned vehicle or during a traffic stop, the officer will request either a rotation tow company or the owner (if local) of the vehicle be contacted in order to take possession of the vehicle. If the officer requests the dispatcher attempt to contact the owner and direct contact cannot be made, i.e., the call is answered by an answering machine, etc., a message shall be left by the dispatcher advising of the recovery of the vehicle, that the vehicle will be towed and the phone number to the recovering agency's Records Division. This courtesy notification by the dispatcher does not negate the officer's responsibility to forward all required information to the appropriate division in order to complete all notifications as required by CLETS/DOJ and California Vehicle Code.