

STATE OF TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING & REGULATION

VEHICLE STORAGE FACILITY INSPECTION CHECKLIST

TDLR VSF INSP 001 (REV 09-28-17)

COMPANY NAME TDLR CERT			CATE NO.			EXP. DATE	
AD	DRESS	CITY			STATE	ZIP	
PH	ONE	OWNER/AGEN	:NT				
INS	SPECTOR NAME	INSPECTION D	ATE				
VI	OLATIONS FOUND? Y / N						
	PRE-INSPECTION		RULE	COMMENT	ς		
	Is the company certificate (license) valid?		2303.101	COMMENT	<u> </u>		
	If applicable, date license expired:		85.200				
	Is the company insurance active in TOOLS?		85.400(d)(2)				
				Tumou 1	2 2		
	Does the company have an approved drug policy?		2303.161(a) 85.725	Type: 1	2 3		
	Check VSF Storage Capacity (affects insurance req. – confirm no. of veh stored at inspection)	icles	85.400(d)(1)	☐ 50 or les	ss51-	99 🔲 100+	
			1	1			
	SIGN AT MAIN ENTRANCE		RULE	COMMEN	TS		
	☐ Name as it appears in TOOLS		85.1003(a)				
	☐ Street address						
	☐ Telephone No. for release of vehicles ☐ Hours posted for release of vehicles w/one hour notice						
	☐ License number preceded by "VSF LICENSE NUMBER" ☐ 2" letters min., contrasting, visible at 10'						
	2 letters min., contrasting, visible at 10		ı				
	SIGNS AT PLACE OF PAYMENT		RULE	COMMENT	-S		
	SIGN FOR INSTRUMENTS OF RELEASE		85.1003(d)				
	(Not in any particular order – no size requirements)		85.710(a)(3)				
	☐ A notarized power of attorney						
	☐ A court order						
	☐ A certificate of title						
	A tax collector's receipt & vehicle registration renewal card & confo	rming					
	identification						
	□ Name and address information corresponding to that contained in the Texas DMV	the files of					
	☐ A current automobile lease or rental agreement executed by the op	orator of					
	the vehicle or a person holding a power of attorney executed by the						
	named in the lease agreement	person					
	Appropriate identification of any state or federal law enforcement a	gency					
	representative	.90					
	☐ The most recent version of a department approved form or electron	nic version					
	of a department approved form published on the department's web	osite,					
	www.tdlr.texas.gov						
	☐ Evidence of financial responsibility (insurance card) as required by						
	transportation code §601.051, as an additional form of identification						
	establishes ownership or right of possession or control of the vehicl						
	"AFFIDAVIT OF RIGHT OF POSSESSION FURNISHED UPON REQUEST "SIGNATOR AND STORMAGE CHARGES	Γ"	05 4000 (1.)				
	SIGN FOR STORAGE CHARGES AND FEES		85.1003(b)				
	☐ Storage Charges ☐ Notification Fee						
	l						
	☐ Impoundment Fee ☐ List all forms of payment accepted						
	☐ Must be visible						
	☐ If located on Payment Window it must be in a min. 24 PT Helvetica	or Arial					
	Bold for Headers and 14 PT Helvetica or Arial Condensed for Text						

SIGN FOR "NON-CONSENT TOW FEE SC	HEDULES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST"	2303.1551	
☐ Clearly Visible- No Height Requirem	ent	85.1003(c)	
SIGN FOR TYPES OF PAYMENT		2303.159/	
☐ "THIS VEHICLE STORAGE FACILITY I	MUST ACCEPT PAYMENT BY CASH, DEBIT	85.1003(e)	
CARDS AND CREDIT CARDS FOR AN	NY FEE OR CHARGE ASSOCIATED WITH		
DELIVERY OR STORAGE OF A VEHIC			
COMPLAINT SIGN – DEPARTMENT CON	TACT INFO P.O. Box 12157 Austin, Texas 78711		
☐ Min. 1" letters	(800) 803-9202 www.tdlr.texas.gov	(b)(1)	
☐ Phone Number, Address, Website &	Email enforcement@tdlr.texas.gov		
EXTERIOR INSPECTION - FACILITY		RULE	COMMENTS
FENCING		85.1000(1)	
☐ 6 Feet high (5' prior to 9/1/85)			
☐ Gate locked at all times unless a VS			
☐ Chain Link, Metal, Wood or Masonr	, .		
☐ Only one VSF may operate within a	single fenced area		
STORAGE LOT SURFACE		85.1001	
☐ All weather surface that permits veh	nicle mobility		
☐ No overgrown vegetation			
LIGHTING		85.1002	
☐ Lighting operational			
	ease/inspection of vehicles (1 – 250-watt		
element per ¼ acre)			
		Г	
EXTERIOR INSPECTION - VEHICLES		RULE	COMMENTS
PARTS REMOVAL, REPAIR OR DEMOLITI			
	icate of Authority to Demolish, Title	85.717	
Transfer Document, Storage Lien or			
	OR 	05.700	
Consent of owner or their authorize	a representative	85.720	
CONSENT STORED VEHICLES	tala ta hatina akawa da 200 a	85.700	
·	icle is being stored with owner's consent		
VEHICLES STORED BEHIND FENCE OR W	/ITHIN SECURE BUILDING	85.1000(2)(A)	

VEHICLES NOT LOCKED, WINDOWS, DOORS, TRUNKS, HOODS & TOPS NOT CLOSED (IF IT CAN BE LOCKED IT MUST BE LOCKED)	85.1000(2)(b)8 5.719(a)	VEHICLES WITH BROKEN WINDOWS, DOORS UNABLE TO BE CLOSED NOT TARPED AS REQUIRED	85.719(b)
Document the vehicles with the above violations model, license number or vin)	(with make,	Document the vehicles with the above violations (model, license number or vin)	with make,

VEHICLE RECORDS	RULE	COMMENTS
MADE RECORDS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION/COPYING	85.706(e)	
They do not have to provide or make copies, just have them available to copy		
RECORDS MAINTAINED AT PRINCIPAL OFFICE (PHYSICAL LOCATION) UNLESS DOCUMENTED PERMISSION TO STORE RECORDS ELSEWHERE.	85.1004(a)	
REQUIRED RECORDS BEING MAINTAINED (1) motor vehicle registration checks (2) notification letters (3) certified return receipts (4) tow tickets (if applicable) (5) bills for service (6) auction sales receipts (7) inventory (if applicable) (8) certificates of authority to demolish (9) any authorized document used to release a vehicle, including but not limited to a title, affidavit of right of possession and control, or court order.	85.706(a)	
REQUIRED COPIES OF NOTIFICATIONS FOR VEHICLES THAT HAVE BEEN DISPOSED OF	85.723(b)(2)	
RECORDS KEPT FOR 2 YEARS AFTER RELEASE OR DISPOSAL OF VEHICLE	85.706(f) 85.1004(b)	

DOCUMENTS YOU WILL NEED TO ASK FOR AND REVIEW					
Vehicle in lot with violations		3 recently stored vehicles (w/in last 10 days)			
Tow ticket		Tow ticket			
If a pp tow – report to law enforcement w/in 2 hours		If a pp tow – report to law enforcement w/in 2 hours			
Copy of cab card & tow operator lic. of tower		Copy of cab card & tow operator lic. of tower			
Motor vehicle record (MVR)		Motor vehicle record (MVR)			
1st & 2nd notification letters & return receipts (if		1st & 2nd notification letters & return receipts (if applicable)			
applicable)		1st & 2nd published notifications (if applicable)			
1st & 2nd published notifications (if applicable)		10-day notice of abandonment (if applicable)			
10-day notice of abandonment (if applicable)		Inventory form (if applicable			
Inventory form (if applicable)					
3 recently released vehicles (w/in last 10 days)		3 older files (1-2 years old) include at least 1 auction vehicle			
Tow ticket		Tow ticket			
If a pp tow – report to law enforcement w/in 2 hours		If a pp tow – report to law enforcement w/in 2 hours			
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1 st & 2 nd published notifications (if applicable)		10-day notice of abandonment (if applicable)			
10-day notice of abandonment (if applicable)		Inventory form (if applicable)			
Inventory form (if applicable)		<u>If released</u>			
Bill for services VSF invoice or combined tow ticket		Bill for services VSF invoice or combined tow ticket			
Copy of document presented for release of vehicle		Copy of document presented for release of vehicle			
		If auctioned/disposed of (one of the following)			
		Certificate of authority to dispose of abandoned vehicle – VTR 71-2			
		Storage lien document – VTR 265			
		Police auction sales receipt – VTR 71-1			

l	MINIMUM INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR VEHICLES	RULE	COMMENTS
	Does not have to be in any particular format or location	85.706(b)	
	Year, Make, Model, Color, Lic. Plate, State of Issue & VIN		
	Date, Time, & Location of Tow		
1	Name of Person/Company who authorized the Tow		
[☐ Tow Operator Lic. No., Tow Company Name, Tow Truck Lic. Plate No.		
[If Released the date the vehicle was released, including the name of the		
	person who the vehicle was released to, type of ID used and the ID number.		
1	If Released, all amounts received at the time the vehicle was released,		
	including the specific nature of each charge		
1	Any title transfer document, certificate of title issued to the VSF, Certificate of		
	Authority to Dispose, any Law Enforcement Auction Sales Receipt.		
[If Transferred, the date of vehicle transfer, the address of the location where		
	the vehicle was transferred, the name of the Tow Company, the Tow		
	Operator and Tow Operator lic. No.		
		T	
	DOCUMENT REVIEW – 2 HOUR REPORT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT	RULE	COMMENTS
	2 HOUR REPORT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT - <u>Applies to Private Property Tows Only</u>		
	☐ Done within 2 hours of receiving vehicle for storage	2303.1511	
[Includes a general description of the vehicle	85.705(a)(1)	
[The state of issue and license plate number	85.705(a)(2)	
	The vehicle identification number (VIN) if it can be ascertained	85.705(a)(3)	
	The location the vehicle was towed from	85.705(a)(4)	
[The name and location of the VSF where the vehicle is being stored	85.705(a)(5)	
	Must be made by telephone, electronically, in person, facsimile or in any	85.705(b)(1-5)	
	manner prescribed by the law enforcement agency		
[Records indicate to whom the report was delivered to, in what manner it was	85.705(c)	
	delivered, the date and time of the report <u>or</u> the unique control or tracking		
	number assigned by the law enforcement agency		
	DOCUMENT REVIEW – TOW TICKET	RULE	COMMENTS
_	TOW TICKET – TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS	85.706(c)	COMMENTS
	☐ Includes the licensed name of the Tow Company	03.700(c)	
	Includes the Certificate Number of the Tow Company		
	Includes the publicly listed phone number of the Tow Company		
	Includes the TDLR Operator License Number		
	includes the 1921 operator Electise Number		
	DOCUMENT REVIEW – COMBINED TOW TICKET/VSF INVOICE	RULE	COMMENTS
	COMBINED TOW TICKET/VSF INVOICE – TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS	85.710(a)(2)	
[Tow Charges and Storage Charges must be clearly separated with headings		
	identifying the charges as "Tow Charges" or "Storage Charges"		
	Tow charges must be identical to those on original tow ticket (if a separate		
	standalone ticket is issued)		
	The combined invoice must meet and contain all required elements of a tow		
	ticket and a VSF invoice provided that the license number of the tow		
	operator may be omitted (if a standalone tow ticket is also issued)		
	COMBINED TOW TICKET/VSF INVOICE – COMPLAINT PROCEDURES	85.707(b)(2)	
			1
	Located on the first page of any bill of service P.O. Box 12157 Austin, Texas 78711		
[Located on the first page of any bill of service Department's website & email address Department's website & email address P.O. Box 12157 Austin, Texas 78711 (800) 803-9202 www.tdlr.texas.gov enforcement@tdlr.texas.gov		

FEE	S	
STC	DRAGE FEE	85.722(d)
	Daily Storage Fees – not less than \$5 or more than \$20 for vehicle 25' or less.	2303.155(b)(3)
	\$35 for vehicles more than 25' in length	
	Cannot charge for more than one day if the vehicle is on the lot less than 12	85.722(d)(1)
	hours	
	For vehicles registered in Texas – cannot charge for more than 5 days unless	85.722(d)(2)
	the notice required under 85.703 is sent.	
	For vehicles registered out of state – cannot charge for more than 5 days	85.722(d)(3)
	unless a proper request is made for owner information to the appropriate	
	out of state governmental entity.	
IMF	POUNDMENT FEE	
	Cannot exceed \$20	85.722(e)
	The bill of service must note the date and exact services that were performed	85.722(e)
	To charge an impoundment fee the VSF must:	
	☐ Tarp a vehicle if it needs to be tarped	
	and (at least one of the following)	
	☐ Obtain Motor Vehicle Record (MVR)	85.719(c)
	☐ Conduct an inventory and secure unsecured property	
NO	TIFICATION FEE	
	Only can be charged once & covers all required notifications	85.722(c)
	Cannot Exceed \$50,	
	o If a published notice is required and the cost of publication exceeds	
	50% of the notification fee then the amount above the 50% can be	
	recovered and must be charged separately	
	Cannot be charged until the vehicle has been on the lot at least 24 hours and the notification letter is sent	
60		
	VERNMENTAL & LAW ENFORCEMENT FEE	85.722(f)
	Cannot exceed the actual fee paid to the law enforcement agency, authorized agent or governmental entity	03.122(1)
FA!	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	05 722(a)
	VIRONMENTAL HAZARD FEE	85.722(g)
	CANNOT BE CHARGED AT THIS TIME (It is a violation if this is listed as a fee)	
ОТІ	HER FEES	85.722(h)
	Cannot charge any other non-authorized fees.	

DO	CUMENT REVIEW- FIRST NOTIFICATION LETTER	RULE	COMMENTS
FIR	ST NOTIFICATION LETTER – MAILING REQUIREMENTS		
	Vehicles registered in Texas – No sooner than 24 hours and no later than 5	2303.151(a)	
	days		
	Vehicles registered out of state – No later than 14 days	2303.151(b)	
	Must be correctly addressed to registered owner and primary lienholder –	2303.151(d)	
	Compare name and address information to MVR		
	Must be sent certified mail or electronic certified mail with return receipt		
	Must be sent with sufficient postage		
FIR	ST NOTIFICATION LETTER – TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS	2303.153(a)	
	Includes the name of the VSF, street address and phone number	85.703(h)(1)	
	The VSF license number preceded by the words: "TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF		
	LICENSING AND REGULATION VEHICLE STORAGE FACILITY LICENSE		
	NUMBER" OR "TDLR VSF LIC. NO." (Does not have to be exact)		
	Hours the vehicle can be released with one-hour notice		
	Daily storage rate & types & amounts of all fees assessed		

	Statement: "TOTAL STORAGE CHARGES CANNOT BE COMPUTED UNTIL VEHICLE IS CLAIMED. THE STORAGE CHARGE WILL ACCRUE DAILY UNTIL VEHICLE IS RELEASED"
	The first date that a storage fee is assessed
	The date vehicle was accepted for storage and where, when & by whom the vehicle was towed
	The date the vehicle will be transferred including the address of the lot it will be transferred to if it remains unclaimed. (if applicable)
	A notice of the owner's rights under Occupations Code, Chapter 2308 to challenge the legality of the tow.
	The name, mailing address and toll-free phone number of the Department
	for purposes of directing questions or complaints.

DO	CUMENT REVIEW – 10 DAY NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT	RULE	COMMENTS
NO	TICE OF ABANDONMENT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT		
	Law enforcement abandonment reporting will be required if the law	85.704(b)	
	enforcement agency requires it	2303.154(a)	
	Must be sent if vehicle remains unclaimed 10 days after the date the first		
	notice was mailed or published. The VSF must send this notice within 7 days	2303.1545(b)(2)	
	after the 10 th day.		
	The VSF must send a \$10 fee along with the notice.		

DO	CUMENT REVIEW – SECOND NOTIFICATION LETTER/CONSENT TO SALE	RULE	COMMENTS
SEC	COND NOTIFICATION LETTER/CONSENT TO SALE	85.704(a)	
	Must be sent unless the vehicle is an Abandoned Nuisance Vehicle (10 model	85.704(c)	
	years or older, only suitable for demolishing, dismantling or disposal) or the		
	vehicle was claimed by the Law Enforcement Agency in response to the 10		
	Notice of Abandonment above.		
	Must be sent no sooner than the 15 th date after the date the First Notice was		
	mailed, and no later than the 21st day.		
	Must meet all the mailing requirements of the First Notice		
	Must contain all information included in the First Notice		
	Must also contain a statement that the failure of the owner or lienholder to		
	claim the vehicle & property before the 30 th day after the date the notice is		
	provided:		
	 A waiver of all right, title and interest in the vehicle; and 		
	 a consent to the sale of the vehicle at a public sale 		

DC	CUMENT REVIEW – NOTICE BY PUBLICATION	RULE	COMMENTS
NC	TICE BY PUBLICATION - PROCEDURES		
	Published in a newspaper in the county where the vehicle is stored	2303.152/	
	Must follow the same timelines as the mailed notice	85.703(e)	
	For vehicles registered in another state;		
	The VSF submits a written request to the governmental agency in the state		
	the vehicle is registered requesting information related to the identity of the		
	registered owner and any lienholder (Must be sent certified mail with return		
	receipt);		
	The identity of the registered owner cannot be determined;		
	The registration does not contain an address of the registered owner; OR		
	The VSF cannot reasonably determine the identity and address of each		
	lienholder		
NC	TICE BY PUBLICATION – TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS		
	Contains the Name, Street Address, Telephone Number & VSF License	85.703(h)(2)	
	Number		
	Contains a description of the Vehicle		

 □ Contains the total amount of charges assessed against the Vehicle □ Can contain more than one towed vehicle 		
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION – SECOND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS Must contain all information contained in the first notice by publication, and; A statement that the failure of the owner or lienholder to claim the vehicle before the 30 th day after the notice is sent is: o a waiver of all right, title, and interest in the vehicle and personal property; and o a consent to the sale of the vehicle at a public sale.	85.704(d)	
	1	1
EMPLOYEE LICENSING & DRUG TESTING	RULE	COMMENTS
ALL EMPLOYEES HAVE REQUIRED VSF EMPLOYEE OR TOW OPERATOR LIC. DUAL LICENSE HAS BEEN REPEALED. IF THE PERSON HOLDS A TOW OPERATOR LICENSE, THEY CAN WORK IN A VSF WITHOUT A SPECIAL VSF OR DUAL LICENSE Employees Owner/Sole Proprietor	85.204(b) 85.204(c)	
FAILURE OF AN EMPLOYEE TO SUBMIT CHANGE OF ADDRESS WITHIN 30 DAYS	85.702(b)	
ALL EMPLOYEES HAVE REQUIRED DRUG TEST Pre-Employment – must be done before offer to hire (include hire date) Annual (must verify hire date) Random (25%) ALL EMPLOYEES HAVE SIGNED CONSENT FORM	85.725(a)(6)(A) 85.725(a)(6)(B) 85.725(a)(6)(C) 85.725(a)(3)(A)	
IF AN EMPLOYEE TESTS POSITIVE		
 Pre-Employment the applicant must be denied employment Post-Employment the applicant must stand down from VSF duties until a clean follow up test is obtained 	85.725(a)(11)(A) 85.725(a)(11)(B)	
☐ Post-Employment the VSF shall notify the Department of any confirmed positive within 3 days	85.725(a)(8)(E)	
COMPANY ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS	RULE	COMMENTS
FAILURE OF A VSF TO NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT PRIOR TO:		
 Change of business name no later than the effective date of change Change of mailing or physical address no later than the effective date of change 	85.702(a)(1) 85.702(a)(2)	
 Change of mailing or physical address no later than the effective date of change Change in facility storage capacity no later than the effective date of change 	85.702(a)(2) 85.702(a)(3)	
 Change of mailing or physical address no later than the effective date of change Change in facility storage capacity no later than the effective date of change Change of drug testing policy 	85.702(a)(2) 85.702(a)(3) 85.702(a)(4)	
 Change of mailing or physical address no later than the effective date of change Change in facility storage capacity no later than the effective date of change 	85.702(a)(2) 85.702(a)(3)	
 □ Change of mailing or physical address no later than the effective date of change □ Change in facility storage capacity no later than the effective date of change □ Change of drug testing policy ADEQUATE INSURANCE FOR NUMBER OF VEHICLES BEING STORED □ 50 or less - \$9,000 per claim □ 51-99 - \$18,000 per claim □ 100 + - \$25,000 per claim HONESTY, TRUSTWORTHINESS AND INTEGRITY ANY PERSON LICENSED UNDER THIS CHAPTER MUST CONDUCT VEHICLE STORAGE FACILITY OPERATIONS WITH HONESTY, TRUSTWORTHINESS AND INTEGRITY 	85.702(a)(2) 85.702(a)(3) 85.702(a)(4) 85.400(d)(1) 85.726	
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