



City of El Paso Texas - Code of Ordinances
Soliciting of Towing Business at Traffic Accidents
Title 12 Chapter 12.54. – Towing Regulations and Fees
Proposed New Section 12.54.070

Goal 2: Set the Standard For A Safe & Secure City
Executive Assistant Chief Victor Zarur

Content

- Public Safety
- Ordinance - Soliciting of Towing Business at Traffic Accidents
- Offense punishable by fine not to exceed \$500.00, Class C Misdemeanor



Public Safety

Accident Victims

This term encompasses individuals who have suffered harm or injury due to an accident, which can include physical injuries, emotional distress, and financial losses.

Road Safety

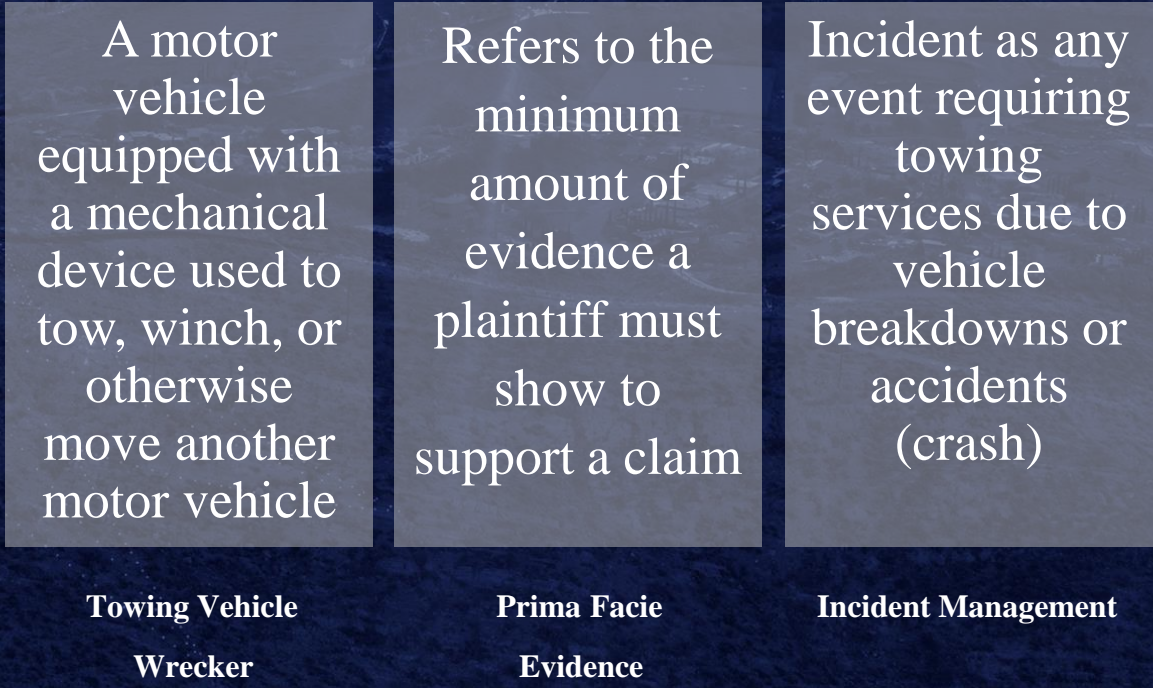
Measures to prevent further accidents and protect road users, including pedestrians, accident victims and first responders.



Section 12.54.070 Violations

In the interest of public safety, soliciting towing services business on public streets, public way, other public property, or city sidewalk is prohibited; presence at scene of traffic accident or incident management scene is *prima facie evidence* of a violation.

- A. A person commits an offense if;
 - 1. The person arrives at the scene of a traffic accident or an *incident management* scene to perform a nonconsent or incident management tow of a motor vehicle, or motorcycle without first being contacted by the police department, vehicle owner, vehicle driver, or an insurance company for the vehicle.



Section 12.54.070 Violations

2. The person directly or indirectly solicits, on public streets, public way, other public property, or city sidewalk, located in the city, towing services, including towing, removing, repairing, wrecking, storing, trading, selling, or purchasing related to a vehicle that has been damaged in an accident;
3. The person enters the scene of a traffic accident, an incident management scene, or other area under the control of a peace officer or public safety employee without the permission of the peace officer or public safety employee; or
4. The person uses a third party to approach a traffic accident or incident management scene to solicit for a towing business as prohibited under this chapter.




Section 12.54.070 Violation:

B. The presence of any auto tow company vehicle or employee, car dolly, towing equipment, trailer, business card, flyer, electronic picture or message, or any form of soliciting and making reference to a business, towing service, or body shop being presented to individuals at the scene of a traffic accident, or any similar service.

Any employee or third party acting for the towing service that was not dispatched by the police department or requested by the vehicle owner, vehicle driver, or insurance company at the scene of a traffic accident or incident management scene in the city after the traffic accident or prior to the removal of all disabled vehicles shall be prima facie evidence of solicitation in violation of this section.





 (915) 212-4303

OPEN MEETING FOR TOW OPERATORS & INDUSTRY PARTNERS



- »» **Feb. 25th: 6:00 p.m.** Upper East Side Regional Command - Large Conference Room at 14301 Pebble Hills Blvd.
- »» **March 3rd: 6:00 p.m.** Chief Gregory K. Allen Police Department Headquarters - Large Conference Room at 911 N. Raynor St.
- »» **March 5th: 6:00 p.m.** Westside Regional Command - Large Conference Room at 4801 Osborne St
- »» **March 11th: 6:00 p.m.** Northeast Regional Command - Large Conference Room at 9600 Dyer St.

www.eppd.org

- Staff reached out to towing companies with contact information in regard to the proposed ordinance and community meetings.
- Held four community meetings from February to March; at UERC, Chief G.K. Allen Headquarters, WSRC and the NERC.
- Review of input from community with team.
- April 14th First Reading.
- April 28th Discussion on proposed ordinance for vote.
- Dates have been posted on our web page www.eppd.org Click on “Get Involved”
- Training for officers on ordinance and related laws
- Effective June 1st, 2026



Questions?



MISSION



Deliver exceptional services to support a high quality of life and place for our community.

VISION



Develop a vibrant regional economy, safe and beautiful neighborhoods and exceptional recreational, cultural and educational opportunities powered by a high performing government.



VALUES

Integrity, **R**espect, **E**xcellence,
Accountability, **P**eople