

ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLES OR OTHER PROPERTY

556B.1 Removal notice to sheriff.

1. The owner or other lawful possessor of real property may remove or cause to be removed any motor vehicle or other personal property which has been unlawfully parked or placed on that real property, and may place or cause such personal property to be placed in storage until the owner of the same pays a fair and reasonable charge for towing, storage or other expense incurred. The real property owner or possessor, or the owner's or possessor's agent, shall not be liable for damages caused to the personal property by the removal or storage unless the damage is caused willfully or by gross negligence.

2. The real property owner or possessor shall notify the sheriff of the county where the real property is located of the removal of the motor vehicle or other personal property. If the owner of the motor vehicle or other personal property can be determined, the owner shall be notified of the removal by the sheriff by certified mail, return receipt requested. If the owner cannot be identified, notice by one publication in one newspaper of general circulation in the area where the personal property was parked or placed is sufficient to meet all notice requirements under this section. If the personal property has not been reclaimed by the owner within six months after notice has been effected, it may be sold by the sheriff at public or private sale. The net proceeds after deducting the cost of the sale shall be applied to the cost of removal and storage of the property, and the remainder, if any, shall be paid to the county treasurer.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, § 556B.1]

83 Acts, ch 123, § 190, 209