# **Prince George's County Vehicle Show Cause Hearing Request Form**

noted at the bottom.

- Private Tow Company Impound
- O P.G. Co. Police Department Impound
- O P.G. Co. Abandoned Vehicle Unit Impound

Tracking #

\*NOTE: Completing this form for a Show Cause Hearing does not exempt you from paying impound/storage fees incurred at the time you reclaim your vehicle. Please be advised that storage/impound fees accumulate daily. Per Section 26-142.12 of the Prince George's County Code, an owner must reclaim the impounded vehicle within 21 days of the impound. As of the 22<sup>nd</sup> day, the owner has waived all rights, title and interest in that vehicle, and has consented for vehicle sale at a public auction. If you believe the impoundment of your vehicle was illegal, please complete this form and forward to the address PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME:			
Address:			
Phones:	I	I	
Home	Worl	ζ	Cell
VEHICLE: Year	Make	Model	
Vehicle Tag Number Tag Sta	te <u>V</u> ehic	le <u>I</u> dentification <u>N</u> u	umber (" <u>VIN</u> ")
IMPOUND: When: / DD	/ Where:		
Towing Company:		Phone:	
Please provide a brief explan	ation of why the veh	icle should not have	e been impounded:
I certify that the information pand is provided in good faith. hearing request to determine probabilities 26-142.10 or 26-169 of the registered owner of the vehical vehicle. I further understany criminal proceeding in connections.	I understand that comple bable cause for the tow the Prince George's Cou cle, I carry the burden and the Hearing Officer	eting and signing thi ing of my vehicle as nty Code. I fully re of establishing my r 's decision is final	s form initiates a prescribed under alize that if I am noight to possession of
Signature of Person Requ	esting Hearing		Date

THIS FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE IMPOUND NOTIFICATION LETTER OR HEARING REQUEST WILL BE DENIED.

> PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY ABANDONED VEHICLE UNIT 4920 RITCHIE-MARLBORO ROAD; UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

#### Show Cause Hearings:

- ➤ Show Cause Hearings are to determine whether a vehicle was properly towed and impounded under the provision of Subtitle Divisions 10 and 18 of the County Code.
- > This form entitles you to request a show cause hearing into the impoundment of your vehicle.
- ➤ If you elect to contest the impoundment, you will be required to appear and present testimony at the hearing.

## Reclaiming your vehicle:

- > If your vehicle has been impounded, please make every effort to retrieve it from storage as soon as possible. <a href="Impound/storage fees are incurred">Impound/storage fees are incurred</a> daily. Keep in mind, you may reclaim your vehicle at any time.
- ➤ By retrieving your vehicle, you do not forfeit your right to the hearing should you so request it and you may save yourself the additional assessment of storage fees and possibly other expenses if it is found that the tow/impoundment was legal.
- Not reclaiming your vehicle within 21 days after the impound notice being mailed, waives all the owners "right, title and interest in the vehicle". (Sec.26-142.12)

### The Hearing Officer:

- ➤ The Hearing Officer is only empowered to rule on whether or not the vehicle was legally towed and impounded. (Sec.26.142.10(c) and Sec. 26-169(c)).
- > Should the Hearing Officer rule that your vehicle was towed without probable cause(illegally) you may be entitled to receive reimbursement for towing and storage fees already paid or a fraction thereof.
- > Should the Hearing Officer determine there was probable cause (legally) for your vehicle being impounded, impound/storage fees paid will be upheld, and therefore forfeited.
- ➤ The decision of the Hearing Officer is final. That decision is in no way connected to any claims filed via Civil Court.

#### Probable Cause for Vehicular Impoundment:

- > Abandoned vehicles are prohibited-
  - A vehicle is classified as abandoned if it is inoperable and left on public property; illegally on public property; displaying invalid registration plates; or displaying registration plates of another vehicle for more than 48 hours.
  - A vehicle is classified as abandoned if it has remained on private property for more than 48 hours and is inoperable; displaying invalid registration plates; displaying registration plates of another vehicle; or partially dismantled, wrecked or junked.
- > Impoundment without prior notice to the owner. Vehicles can be impounded without prior notice to the owner if it is impeding traffic flow (vehicular/pedestrian traffic flows); illegally parked; imposes an immediate danger to public safety; when a police officer believes vehicle may be stolen; when a police officer believes vehicle constitutes evidence of a crime; when the operator of vehicle has been taken into custody; parked in a reserved parking space in violation of Sec. 26-129 or parked on private property in violation of Sec. 26-142.01; or when a vehicle is classified abandoned.

Please let The Office of Boards and Commissions know how to best meet your needs as they will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making "reasonable accommodations" to promote and encourage your participation.