

COLLISION INVESTIGATION DETAIL

The Collision Investigation Detail investigates Driving Under the Influence, hit and run, traffic fatalities cases, and other traffic related crimes. Their functions also include:

- Facilitating the 14602.6 CVC 30-day impound program for unlicensed drivers or drivers with suspended driver's licenses, by reviewing the reports and holding post storage hearings.
- Conducting initial reviews for, patrol originated, parking citations complaints.
- Answering general questions from the public relating to traffic collisions.
- Reviewing employee involved collisions, police pursuits, and all collisions involving city property damage.
- Managing the Red Light Photo Enforcement program (Currently not in operation).
- Handling all Commercial Enforcement related citations and investigations.

TRAFFIC FAQs

Q. How do I make a traffic collision report?

A. It is the policy of the Long Beach Police Department to complete a traffic collision report (both on the highway and private property) under the following circumstances:

- The traffic collision occurred within the City of Long Beach, with the exception of most portions of the freeways.
- A person involved in the traffic collision has been injured (a complaint of pain is only considered an injury when the subject is transported from the scene or the collision to the hospital by any means) or dies.
- One of the drivers is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- One of the drivers has fled the location without stopping to exchange information or check on the welfare of the other parties involved.
- City property is involved (City vehicle, light post, signal post, etc.)
- Collisions where at least one vehicle must be towed from the scene.
- A collision where one driver requests that a report be taken.
- Collision reports shall be taken, even if no report is desired, when any driver does not have a valid driver's license or proof of insurance.

If a unit is dispatched to a collision, a report may be taken unless no report is desired. If no report is desired, officers will assist in the exchange of information between the involved parties, including verification and/or status of driver's license and insurance. If any of the above conditions are met at the scene of a traffic collision, the Long Beach Police Department should be notified in one of the following manners:

9-1-1 (in case of an emergency), if it's not an emergency, call the non emergency dispatch telephone number: **562-435-6711**.

In addition to filing a traffic collision report with the Long Beach Police Department, it may also be necessary to file Department of Motor Vehicles Form **SR-1A**. Visit the **Department of Motor Vehicles** web page (www.dmv.ca.gov) for more information on state reporting requirements for traffic collisions.

Late reported collisions:

- If an involved party at the scene made prior contact with police, either through Communications or in person – and no report was taken and an exchange of information was made or advised to be made, then no report will be taken.
- If a non-injury report has already been filed, no late reported injuries will be added to the original report.
- Non-injury collision – no report will be taken unless the collision is a hit and run.

Late reported injury collisions will be taken as follows:

- If this is the first contact with police.

Q. Can I request a copy of a traffic accident report?

A. Traffic collision reports can be obtained by:

- Contacting LBPD Records Division at 562-570-7381.
- Completing the Application For Release of Report/Report Receipt, which should be distributed to all involved parties by the police officer taking the report.
- Through your insurance company.

Q. Without police involvement, what information should be exchanged?

A. Any Person involved in a traffic collision should obtain the following information:

- The time and location (street address/cross streets) where the collision occurred.
- The license plate number of all vehicles involved in the traffic collision.
- Driver's license number of all involved parties.
- Insurance information (name of the insurance company, their policy number, expiration date, and phone number).
- The names, addresses, and phone numbers of all passengers in the vehicles.
- If known, the license plate numbers, names, addresses, and phone numbers of all other involved drivers and passengers.
- The names, addresses, and phone numbers of all witness to the collision.

Q. My vehicle was impounded for driving without a driver's license, what happens now?

A. According to the California Vehicle Code Section 14602.6, if the driver is cited for driving with a suspended or revoked license, or having never been issued a drivers license, then law enforcement may impound the vehicle for 30 days.

The owner of the vehicle is responsible for all towing, storage and administrative fees during this period. At the end of the 30-day period the vehicle will be released to the registered owner. The registered owner can go directly to the City of Long Beach, Fleet Services, Towing Operations, at 3111 E. Willow Ave., Long Beach, CA, 90808, 562-570-2828, and pick up the vehicle.

The person obtaining the release must have a valid driver's license or be accompanied by someone who does. The vehicle must have current registration or have a temporary operating permit, and proof of valid insurance before it can be released.

Q. Can I get my car out early?

A. Yes:

- The driver of the vehicle, whom received the citation at the time of the contact, must obtain a valid California Driver's License or permit.
- There must be valid insurance for the vehicle.
- The vehicle must be currently registered.

Please call 562-570-5521 to request a post storage hearing. The hearing is only to determine the validity of the tow. Mitigating facts such as financial hardship is not considered for an early release.

Q. Under what circumstances are vehicles towed?

A. There are many reasons that vehicles are towed. The most common reasons vehicles are towed are:

- Driver is unlicensed or license is suspended.
- The vehicle registration is expired more than six months.
- The vehicle has more than 5 outstanding unpaid parking tickets over 21 days delinquent.
- Certain Vehicle Code violations (blocking driveway, driver arrested, driver incapacitated, blocking an alley, involved in a collision and can't be moved, etc.).
- Abandoned vehicle (missing vehicle parts), or parked over 72 hours without being moved after being issued a warning notice.

When a vehicle is towed, the owner must take care of the reason it was towed before they can recover their car. This means any outstanding parking citations or delinquent registration fees must be paid before the car can be released. Depending on the violation, this may require the owner to go to the DMV, or the Parking Citations Department at Long Beach City Hall.

If there is a "hold" on the vehicle, the appropriate Detective Detail must be contacted to obtain a release. If the detective assigned to the case does not place a "permanent hold" the vehicle will become available for release after 10 days from the date of impound. The status of a vehicle can be obtained by calling Fleet Services' Towing Operations at 562-570-2828.