

CITY OF BARSTOW

CALIFORNIA

POLICIES and PROCEDURES MANUAL:

POLICE

Subject:

EMBEZZLED VEHICLES/RENTAL EQUIPMENT

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this policy is to develop a uniform procedure for the proper reporting and investigation of embezzled vehicles and theft of rental equipment.

COMPLAINT

The District Attorney will consider filing complaints only after the adherence of the following time elements:

1. Rented Vehicles: When vehicle has not been returned for a period of ten (10) days after the expiration of the contract (per 10851 VC).
2. Vehicles Taken for Test Drive: When vehicle has not been returned for a period of ten (10) days (per 10851 VC).
3. Rental Equipment: When property has not been returned for a period of thirty (30) days after the expiration of the contract (per 503 PC)

NOTE: Any verbal agreement between the parties may extend the contract.

INVESTIGATION AND REPORT

If the officer receives a report of a possible embezzlement of a vehicle or property prior to the above time element, he may institute a local "be on the lookout for" broadcast with the dispatcher, but he shall not do a crime report or cause a case number to be issued.

Once the time element has been satisfied, the officer shall prepare a stolen vehicle report or a crime report, as is applicable. The reporting party shall supply all documents showing the terms of the transaction. Additionally, officers should advise the reporting party that they must be able to show due diligence in attempting to locate and recover the property.

NOTE: Certain special circumstances could dictate the need for an early report (i.e., belief that suspect will leave the state with the embezzled vehicle or property). If the investigating officer feels the need for such exception, he shall contact the Watch Commander for prior approval.

Reference:

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