



Roam Towing Issues

**Recommendations to address
roam towing issues**

**Ofc. Mike Barnes
Towing Administrator
Gainesville Police Department**

Ordinances Reviewed

- **FLORIDA - Broward County, Daytona Beach, Hillsborough County, Jacksonville, Lakeland, Orange County, St. Johns County, Tallahassee, Tampa**
- **GEORGIA - Savannah**
- **MARYLAND - Montgomery County**

Towing offices open 24/7

- **Most offices open Mon-Fri 8:00am-6:00PM**
- **Montgomery County MD- open 24/7**
- **Tallahassee - 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM, 7 days per week**

Accepting major credit cards including AMEX

- 4 ordinances specifically addressed credit cards...none included American Express
- The City of Gainesville does not accept American Express in person or by phone, due to the high interest rate and delayed payments.

Payment for tows that occur outside the city limits

- The opinion of the GPD Legal Advisor is that we cannot require a specific type of payment for tows that occur outside of the city limits

Ban on roam towing for alcohol establishments

- **Hillsborough County - No roam tows from 9:00PM-12:00 noon**
- **Tallahassee – No roam tows from 2:00AM-10:00AM**
- **Unless property owner signs towing invoice**

Look at better signs

- **Montgomery County-** In parking lots with > 45 spaces must have additional sign posted in conspicuous location; Sign must summarize all parking restrictions on property
- **Orange County – QR(quick response) code placed on tow-away sign, to provide additional information**

Listing names of businesses on signs

- **Already taking place at some parking lots**
- **Target Copy, 1400 W. University Ave**
- **University Plaza, 1640 W. University Ave**

Signs facing in and out

- **Signs are already required at all driveway access points by FSS 715.07**
- **A sign facing outgoing traffic may confuse drivers which property is actually the tow-away zone**

Addressing properties with high amount of tows

- **No regulation**
- **Require owner/management to sign tow ticket for any tows in excess of determined amount**

Fee schedule for 24 hours after tow

- **Daytona-** storage \$20/day
- **Jacksonville-** storage \$19.65 day, administrative fee not to exceed \$60, after 72 hours
- **Orange County** – storage \$25/day, administrative fee of \$45 plus any actual costs...only after 48 hours
- **Tallahassee, St. Johns County-** storage \$25/day

Remove options for Roam Towing

- **Montgomery County MD- roam towing only between 2:00am-9:00am**
- **Orange County – For student housing properties, roam towing from 12:00 midnight-7:00AM**
- **Tallahassee – roam towing from 12:00 midnight-7:00AM; sign states where parking rules can be read by residents and guests**