

Wrecker Operator Course 101 –

What Every Wrecker Operator Should Know

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Areas to Cover:

**Before you
get to the
scene**

**At the
Scene**

**Leaving the
scene**

**OKLAHOMA
HIGHWAY
PATROL**

PURDY MOTORS

Before You
Get to the
Scene



T. Brad Dunkin Collection

AA Law Enforcement Wrecker Operations

OKLAHOMA
HIGHWAY
PATROL

Before You Get to the Scene

Ensure the wrecker vehicle is adequately equipped to handle a law enforcement tow call.

Broom

Shovel

Pry Bar

Absorbent

Chains

Straps

Winch

Axe

Scotch Blocks

Dollies

Tow Lights

Warning Devices

Cable Length & Integrity

Fire Extinguisher



**Before You
Get to the
Scene**

Vehicle Integrity:

Wheels

Tires

Brakes

Fenders

Flashing Lights

Turn Signals

Exhaust System

Working Front & Rear Lights

Front & Rear Suspension



Before You Get to the Scene

Ensure the wrecker vehicle is fully capable of handling the job.

- **Proper size and weight rating for vehicle(s) being towed.**
- **Proper configuration, conventional or rollback for the specific job.**
- **Functional and reliable operation of wrecker vehicle prior to arrival.**



Before You Get to the Scene

Ensure the operator is adequately qualified to handle AA law enforcement tow call.

- **Valid Oklahoma license to operate wrecker vehicle.**
- **Experienced and competent wrecker operator adequately trained to operate the vehicle and handle routine and non-routine towing calls.**
- **Driver information on file with DPS.**



**Before you
get to the
scene**

Respond to the call promptly without unnecessary delay.

- **Response time, response time, response time.**
- **Communications and familiarization with roads and highways in the rotation area.**
- **24-7 response for service. Weekends, holidays, bad weather.**



At the Scene



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AA Law Enforcement Wrecker Operations

Positioning the wrecker vehicle

- **Park or stop wrecker vehicle as to not cause an additional hazard for law enforcement, the public, and wrecker operator.**
- **Collision scene integrity for evidentiary purposes.**
- **Reflective vest apparel in accordance with federal regulations.**



At the Scene

Respond to the nearest at scene law enforcement officer for instructions.

- **Which vehicle(s) to move first.**
- **Special instructions for storage (inside/outside)**
- **Special instructions for evidentiary and or specific release limitations and restrictions.**



At the Scene

Safely operate the wrecker vehicle during recovery operations. **SAFETY FIRST!!**

- **Securing the wrecker vehicle prior to towing and recovery operations.**
- **Adequate clothing and safety equipment utilized prior to recovery operations.**
- **Situational awareness for other hazards such as vehicular and pedestrian traffic during recovery operations.**



Leaving the Scene



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Leaving the Scene

Ensure the operator has been cleared by the law enforcement officer to leave the scene.

- **Authorizing officer and badge number documentation prior to departure.**
- **Provide telephone information of wrecker operator to on scene law enforcement for purposes associated with unforeseen circumstances.**



Leaving the Scene

- **Final instructions from law enforcement.**
- **Ensure statutory mandates have been met with regard to on-scene cleanup prior to departure.**



Closing Points

Proficiency

Safety

Professionalism

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Lewis Bishop drove the Veregge Bros. tow truck

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Questions??



Fred Veregge Collection