



CITY OF  
**PORT LAVACA**  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Port Lavaca City Council  
202 North Virginia  
Port Lavaca, Texas 77979

### **Animal Control/Evidence Incinerator**

The Port Lavaca Animal Control, an extension of the Port Lavaca Police Department, operates and maintains a department/city owned incinerator for this division's use. This piece of equipment is located at the Animal Control Facility, located at 201 Stringham Dr, Port Lavaca. When the equipment is in use it requires fuel (propane), active management by personnel (actively destroying/consuming items through the use of fire requires constant monitoring), and regular maintenance (cleanout/ maintaining the ignition device). This device is utilized by the Port Lavaca Police Department for the destruction of evidence (as granted by the proper authority) in addition to its regular function for Animal Control. Additionally, the incinerator is utilized by our sister agencies for this same purpose. Due to the rising costs of this equipment's use (fuel/maintenance) the Port Lavaca Police Department, manager and custodian of the apparatus, requests the implementation of a fee for outside agency use. The application of a fee or fee schedule (\$150.00 per/burn session) for the use of the device will help this agency/department to off-set costs associated with the management of the equipment.

### **Port Lavaca Police Department Impound Lot**

The Port Lavaca Police Department regularly seizes vehicles during the regular course of business/enforcement. There are many reasons this is done i.e. arrests of subjects who were operating a vehicle during the commission of a crime, as a matter of evidence, or other various matters. Typically, these vehicles, when not considered evidence, have been towed by the respective entities that are called for their removal and stored on that business' owned lot.

When a vehicle is considered evidence, it must be stored in a secured location where it needs to be available for investigators away from anyone that may tamper with or destroy any evidentiary value. The length of storage for evidentiary items is solely dictated by the Calhoun County District Attorney's Office and the speed with which they either prosecute or dismiss the case or the lack thereof. During this time, between the vehicle's seizure and the case's disposal, the vehicle must remain in possession of a law enforcement.

When a vehicle is towed from the scene of a crime, not vehicles involved in crashes (unless there is some type of follow-on investigation), that tow fee has fallen on the Port Lavaca Police Department. Typically, those fees are placed into the case file with the expectation of re-payment from the Calhoun

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County District Attorney's Office upon the disposition/closure of a case. Currently the Port Lavaca Police Department has never received any re-payment for this fee in whole or in part by their office.

In an effort to off-set these costs associated with the towing and storage of vehicles as a function of our regular duties; the Port Lavaca Police Department requests an ordinance outlining a fee schedule for these costs.

Impound Administrative Fee: \$20

Tow Fee: Actual Cost (Variables affect this cost/rate)

Certified Mail Notification: \$50

Storage Fee: \$20/day (fees begin 24hours after vehicle impounded)

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