

# TENNESSEE TOW TRUCK ASSOCIATION

3306 Grandeur Way

3/21/2018

VOLUME:14

Suite 1

Morristown, TN 37814

## WELCOME NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS

*A Big Thank You for all Members who have sent in your 2018 New Membership Application and have all fees up to date for the new year.*

*Below is a list of all TTTA current and expiring members for this year. Some just need to pro-rate through the end of the 2018 year. If you have any questions feel free to contact me about your membership.*

A 1 Towing & Recovery of Greeneville LLC

Airport Wrecker

Allen's Towing & Recovery

Ambrester Towing & Recovery

Bailey's Wrecker Service

Baker's Wrecker Service

Blues City Towing

Bradley's Towing & Recovery

Buddy's Wrecker Service Inc

Cains Wrecker Service

Casper's Body Shop & Wrecker Service

Chattanooga Wrecker Inc

Creson Recycling Wrecker Service

Dad's Towing & Recovery

Dales Towing & Recovery

Davenport Towing & Recovery

East Memphis Wrecker

Foothills Wrecker Service

Gullett's Towing

GW Towing & Recovery

H & H Towing

Hamblen's Wrecker Service

Hartford Towing & Transport

Independent Towing & Recovery

Libby's Auto Diesel

Mountain View Inc

North & South Truck Parts & Towing

Phifer's Auto Service

Phoenix Towing

Putman Towing

Radford's Wrecker Service

Raspberry Tire & Service Center

S & S Towing and Wrecker Service

Short Dawg Towing

Sisco Towing & Recovery

Sonny's Wrecker Service

Springfield Towing & Storage

Stovall's Wrecker Service & Body Shop

Titan Towing

Tonys Auto Sales & Salvage

Tow Pro

West Nashville Wrecker Service

Whaley's Auto Repair & Towing

Williams Towing

Yates Towing & Recovery Ent. LLC

Monteagle Truck Center

Monteagle Wrecker Service

Mike's Customs Towing

## *From the Desk of The President*

We are having training classes by Wes Wilburn at American Towing & Recovery Institute and members and their employees can receive a great deal. The training will be a one-day class on advanced light duty recovery and held in Nashville in June, in September at the Tow Show in Chattanooga, and in Union City at the latter part of the year. These classes will be at a rate of \$50.00 for owners and \$75.00 for their employees. We are starting to give members more benefits by joining. We have partnered with Wes at American Towing & Recovery Institute at which now our members will receive free membership to their program and be able to purchase rigging and other supplies at their membership rates. As an association member you get updates to our towing book comprised of all the info needed to retrieve owner and lienholder info from each state with their forms. Members also have our attorney that is available to members for questions about Tennessee laws with towing. We have a hired a full-time lobbyist at legislation to watch for new laws that would affect the towing industry and also present changes to current law to better our industry. Another benefit for TTTA Members is with Tow Times Magazine for a discount on New and Renewal Subscriptions by calling in and stating you are a TTTA Current Member. There is more in the works but as you know it's not a fast process but progressing steady along. In the next weeks to come our members will be part of Tow Partners at no charge in which you can receive discounts at several places. With your membership support we can protect and better our industry and bring more benefits as we grow. I look forward to having you be a part of this association.

*A Big Thank You to all who made TTTA Training Class in Greeneville Tn a success.*

Casper's - Jimmy Collins supplied cars and rollback for the class

### ***And a Thanks below for their Sponsorships***

CCI - Steve Melton

AutoData- Tom Dra

Crouch's- Bob Crouch and David Reed

Miller Industries- Kipp Felice and Jake Bowers with all his crew at the Greenville plant

And all who attended that made the training class a success. This would have not been possible without the help and sponsorship and glad to you as a part of this joint venture.

***Now it is time to fill the Nashville Training Class that will be held on June 16, 2018 at Dad's Towing.***

***Thanks***

***Todd Putman***

***President***

**TTTA Has an Open Board Position of Secretary to be filled please email me at**

**[Mkrhinocharge@aol.com](mailto:Mkrhinocharge@aol.com) or contact Todd Putman 615-982-3966 for more information of how to be considered.**

# 1 DAY ADVANCED LEVEL LIGHT DUTY RECOVERY COURSE

June 16, 2018

9:00 am – 6:00 pm

Nashville, TN

## DAD'S TOWING

PRESENTED BY:



HOSTED BY



TENNESSEE  
TOW TRUCK  
ASSOCIATION



**Current TN Tow Truck Association Members Pay \$50 each**  
**Employees of TN Tow Truck Association Member Pay \$75 each**  
**Non-Members Pay \$150 each**

Each day will be filled with educational theory &  
hands-on scenarios focusing on different aspects including:

- Recovery Techniques
- Different Hook Up methods
- Incident management Procedures
- Creating a Safer Working environment

Light Duty Recovery Course will share proven rigging methods & other techniques using Advanced Level Light Duty Car Carriers both in the classroom & in the hands-on sessions.

Wes Wilburn, 30 year Towing Industry Veteran and Founder of American Towing and Recovery Institute of Fayetteville, NC has been published over 100 times in major towing publications. Wes has produced and conducted training and certification programs for leading towing companies, equipment distributors, towing associations, DOT, fire department/rescue and military installations across the United States. Wes has "shared information" as a main speaker for twenty-one years at 700 plus sessions and has been recognized as one of *America's Greatest Towing Trainers*. He is well known for his straight forward but down to earth teaching style.

**The American Towing & Recovery Institute**  
**Registration Form Nashville, TN - TTTA**  
**June 16, 2018**

OWNER/ MANAGER/ CONTACT PERSON COMPANY INFORMATION			
Company	Owner/Manager		
Last Name:	First:	M.I.	
Street Address		Apartment/Unit #	
City	State	ZIP:	
Phone	E-mail:		
Employee(s) Attending:			
Last Name:	First:	M.I.	
Last Name:	First:	M.I.	
Last Name:	First:	M.I.	
Last Name:	First:	M.I.	
<b>1 Day Advanced Light Duty Recovery Course</b>		<b>June 16, 2018</b>	
Current TTTA Members Pay \$50 each	Employees of TTTA Members Pay \$75 each	Non-Members Pay \$150.00	

To register with a credit card: **Fax: (910)486-8930**  
 Email: [register@americantowingandrecoveryinstitute.org](mailto:register@americantowingandrecoveryinstitute.org)  
 or for additional questions call: **(910)747-9000**

**Make Checks Payable to:**  
**TENNESSEE TOW TRUCK ASSOCIATION**  
**Attention: Rebecca Bowlin**  
**3306 Grandeur Way, Suite 1**  
**Morristown, TN 37814**

**CLASS LOCATION:**  
 Dad's Towing  
 1119 E Old Hickory Blvd  
 Madison, TN

*For information about TN Tow Truck Association  
 Call Todd Putman at **(615)982-3966***

**TENNESSEE TOW TRUCK ASSOCIATION**

**TREASURER REPORT FOR MARCH 2018**

Tennessee Tow Truck Association  
Treasure Report- Training Account

Paid Sams Club Ton Pa max	\$ 188.87
Fed Ex shipping	\$ 21.89
188.87Deposit: Putman Towing	\$ 50.00
Deposit: Hamptons Wrecker Ser	\$ 150.00
<b><u>Balance as of 03/14/2018</u></b>	<b><u>\$6622.56</u></b>

Tennessee Tow Truck Association  
Treasure Report- General Account

Payments: Michael McGovern	\$ 2000.00
Payments: Rebecca Bowlin	\$ 1000.00
Payments: Phone for TTTA	\$ 96.36
Payment : TN Secretary of State FEE	\$ 40.00
<b><u>Balance as of 03/14/2018</u></b>	<b><u>\$60397.53</u></b>

Tennessee Tow Truck Association  
Consumer Credit Union Account

Balance 12/31/2017	\$ 77.20
Balance as of 01/19/2018	\$ 77.20

NO CHECKS WRITTEN FOR THE MONTH.

*From the office of the TTTA General Counsel:*

## **DOR Remains in the Dark Ages**

Michael McGovern  
*The McGovern Law Firm, Knoxville*

In this time of advanced technology and digital communication, the antiquated process of the Department of Revenue (DOR) with regard to towing liens is baffling. As all TTTA members know, unless the vehicle owner is on scene at the time of the tow, anytime a vehicle is impounded as the result of a law enforcement tow current Tennessee state law requires the towing company to send a notice via certified mail to the owner and all lienholders within six (6) days of the impound. Failure to do so could result in a loss of all but six days of storage fees. In order to comply with the law, the tow operator must quickly obtain the owner/lienholder information from the DOR.

The tow operator is supposed to send a Request for Verification of Ownership on Vehicles Found Abandoned/Immobile or Unattended (DOR Form RV-F1310601) to the DOR, along with a \$1.00 fee, to obtain the names and addresses of the registered owner and any lienholders. Unbelievably, in 2018 – fifty years after the creation of the Internet – the DOR is still not able to accept the Request or payments online, so the form and the one-dollar payment must be sent to the DOR via U.S. Mail. Depending on the location of the towing company, it may take 2-4 days for the snail-mailed form to arrive at the DOR. Of course, the six-day notice clock is ticking. In an effort to speed up the turn-around time, in previous years many Nashville-area towing companies hand-delivered the forms and payment to the DOR main office in Nashville. But the DOR stopped accepting hand-deliveries. U.S. Mail is the only acceptable way to request the information from DOR.

Now, in this modern age of instant communication, you would think that at least the DOR could fax or e-mail the vehicle owner/lienholder information back to the tow company so the six-day notice deadline could be met. No. The DOR sends the return information back to the towing company on the same slow boat that the request came on: U.S. Mail. As a result, the tow operator frequently does not receive ownership verification from the DOR until AFTER the six-day notice deadline has expired and, therefore, stands to suffer a loss of storage fees.

Last year I met with then-Representative Pody and staff members of the DOR and discussed returning owner/lienholder information to towing companies by fax or e-mail. Promises were made – a blank space was even added to Part A of Form RV-F1310601 for tow operators to put their fax number or e-mail addresses – however the responses are still being returned via U.S. Mail.

Hopefully, if the TTTA legislation now pending in the General Assembly passes, the notice problem will be resolved.

But there's more antiquated procedures that will not be cured by the pending legislation. Once the tow company receives the owner/lienholder information from the DOR the law requires that it send certified impound letters, return receipt (green card) requested, to the owner and all lienholders. Of course, there is an ever-increasing expense involved in sending those letters. The current cost to send a first-class certified letter with a return receipt is \$6.70. Every vehicle with a lien requires a minimum of \$13.40 just in postage fees.

Some towing companies have attempted to reduce that cost by using e-mail return receipt services provided by the U.S. Postal Service or private mail service providers like [www.neopost.com](http://www.neopost.com). Those services track certified mail and, instead of returning the green card via U.S. Mail, send the towing company an e-mail with a pdf of the signed receipt (green card). The pdf can be saved and archived or exported to a spreadsheet. No more lost or delayed green cards. In addition to the convenience and efficiency, there is a \$1.25 per mailing savings. That can result in hundreds of dollars in savings each year.

So, instead of sending the green card along with your other paperwork to the DOR when applying for a post-lien sale title, the tow operator can just print and send a copy of the electronically-generated delivery receipt, right? Not so fast. In its latest demonstration of outdated ways, the DOR has advised that it will not accept electronically-generated return receipts. It is still insisting on receiving the old-fashioned green cards before processing a certificate of title on a lien sale vehicle.

Maybe someday, with the prompting of TTTA, the DOR will come into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Until then, it's still shades of Back to the Future Part II with DOR.

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*Suite 1*

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