



ANAHEIM FIRE & RESCUE
Community Risk Reduction Division
201 S. Anaheim Blvd., #300
Anaheim, CA 92805
(714) 765-4040



FIRE LANES AND TOWING FROM PRIVATE PROPERTY SPECIFICATION & REQUIREMENTS

References: California Fire Code, California Vehicle Code

Fire lanes are required to prohibit parking in a fire access road. Fire lanes shall be designated by the fire department. If a property owner has difficulties maintaining a fire lane, the owner may post signs at the entrance to the property, and tow cars from the fire lane.

FIRE LANES

No person shall stop, park, or leave standing any vehicle, whether attended or unattended, except when in conflict with other traffic, in a fire lane. Fire lanes may be designated on public or private property.

The designation shall be indicated by at least one of the following:

- A red curb or red paint on the edge of the roadway upon which is clearly marked the words, "FIRE LANE."
- A sign posted immediately adjacent to, and visible from, the designated location clearly stating in letters not less than one inch in height that the location is a fire lane. (Figure 1)
- By outlining or painting the location in red and, in contrasting color, marking the location with the words "FIRE LANE," which are clearly visible from a vehicle.

Figure 1

**NO STOPPING
FIRE LANE
CVC 22500.0**

TOWING OF VEHICLES FROM FIRE LANES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY BY THE PROPERTY OWNER

The owner of a private property containing a fire lane may have a vehicle towed from a fire lane. The owner of the property usually contracts with a private towing company in advance. The following are the requirements for a property owner to tow a vehicle from a fire lane on his/her property.

- Signs must be in place and displayed in plain view at all entrances to the property before an owner may tow.
 - The sign must be a minimum of 17x22 inches in size, with lettering of at least one inch in height.
 - Signs must clearly state that stopping in a fire lane is prohibited.
 - The sign must indicate that vehicles will be removed at the owner's expense.
 - The sign must contain the telephone number of the local traffic law enforcement agency. The sign may also indicate that a citation may also be issued for the violation. (Figure 2)
- The California Vehicle Code requires the owner of the property to first notify the local traffic law enforcement agency before towing. See the Anaheim Police Department phone number on the example shown above.
- Fire lanes shall be marked according to California Vehicle Code as outlined above.
- Owners of private property may post NO PARKING signs for various reasons other than a fire lane and have vehicles removed.

Figure 2

**NO STOPPING IN
FIRE LANE
VEHICLES SUBJECT TO
CITATION AND/OR
TOW-AWAY AT
OWNER'S EXPENSE
APD 714-765-1900
CVC 22658 CVC 22500.1**

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