

# Towing Today

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Issue 01

## From The Publisher

Welcome to the first edition of *Towing Today*, our e-zine newsletter. Our goal with this e-zine is to provide current news, advertiser specials and **Tow Times** article updates in a timely manner. We hope to produce this e-zine every other month. It is available only via e-mail, so to receive this e-zine, we must have your e-mail address on file. If all goes well, we may post the e-zine on our Web site, [www.towtimes.com](http://www.towtimes.com).

If you receive this e-zine and wish to be removed from our list, please let me know via e-mail and I'll do so.

**Tow Times** will continue to deliver what you love – industry news, legal and legislative info, maintenance articles and as many photos of equipment and recoveries as we can fit.

Electronically yours –  
*Clarissa Powell*  
Publisher  
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## Scam ALERT

A **Tow Times** report of a scam targeting towing companies has generated response from our readers indicating the scam is operating nationwide. A May 4, 2009, news story on [www.towtimes.com](http://www.towtimes.com) first revealed the scam, and a report followed in the July 2009 issue of **Tow Times** magazine.

In some instances, individuals in the suspected scams request to have vehicles transported from surrounding states to the tower's home city for repair. Or a person who wants to purchase a vehicle and have it shipped to another location may contact a car dealership. Callers say they need cash wired to them because their shipper or courier doesn't accept credit cards. Callers have had broken English in most instances, and have used services for disabled or hearing-impaired people to conduct the scam.

In other variations of the scam, callers say a vehicle or vehicles have been shipped to a nearby airport and need to be transported but the tower will have to pay a freight company cash to get the car. In other cases, callers require the tower to wire money to the supposed shipper or freight company.

The report in the July issue of **Tow Times** sparked response from towers across the country. Readers contacted us from California, Colorado, Ohio, Iowa, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, South Carolina and Florida. In many situations, towers reporting the scam said they were contacted after being alerted by **Tow Times** reports and were able to avoid participation in the activity, as was noted in a news story featured in the *Saginaw News*.

For a copy of the original article from our July issue, e-mail Dianne at [dwatkins@towtimes.com](mailto:dwatkins@towtimes.com). She'll e-mail you a copy in PDF format.

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