



From 2009 through June 2015, approximately 3,132 vehicles were seized; 2,045 were seized due to a DWI arrest, and 1,236 were due to a revoked license arrest. Once the City receives a judgment or order from the court for a seized vehicle, the City auctions that vehicle to the public.



The SFPD seized the Toyota FJ Cruiser, pictured below, in 2013, from a repeat offender who was arrested on a 4th DWI. Instead of auctioning the vehicle to the public, the SFPD wanted to promote awareness of the program and the consequences of driving drunk, by utilizing the vehicle for educational purposes.



DWI VEHICLE FORFEITURE PROGRAM

**Be Safe.
Stay Alive.
Don't Drink & Drive.**

**505-955-5042
2515 Camino Entrada
Santa Fe, NM 87507**

**IF YOU DRINK AND DRIVE,
HAND OVER YOUR KEYS,
YOUR CAR WILL BE SEIZED.**

The DWI Vehicle Forfeiture Program was implemented in 2009, after the approval of an ordinance by City Council.

The Program's purpose is to assist with the prevention of DWIs by seizing vehicles from drunk drivers and for revoked license arrest. This program is also about safety and protecting the public from drunk drivers by taking away their weapon.

When a person is arrested for a DWI, for first time offenders, they are required to have an ignition interlock device installed on their vehicle per the ordinance as a condition of releasing the vehicle to them. Repeat offenders or those who have had prior DWI convictions, are required to go through the hearing and/or court process. For repeat offenders, the City seeks permanent forfeiture of the vehicle.

When there is an innocent owner involved, meaning that if someone loans their vehicle to a friend or family member, and that person is arrested for a DWI or a revoked license, then our program allows for that owner to get their vehicle released. The owner must sign an Innocent Owner Affidavit and pay the associated fees, which include a \$200.00 administration fee, a \$70 lot fee, and the tow bill which can range from \$100 to \$300. For those owners who are required to have the ignition interlock device installed, they will pay the same fees, plus an additional \$250.00 for the interlock tracking fee.

The DWI Vehicle Forfeiture Program is self-sustaining. All revenues generated from the program's seizures and auctions are applied to the operation of the program; paying expenses, employee salaries, for education awareness, for equipment, and for any improvements.

We want to continue to bring awareness to the program and assist with the prevention of DWIs.

The Santa Fe Police Department (SFPD) collaborates with other State agencies to continue the efforts of reducing DWIs, not only through the DWI Vehicle Forfeiture Program, but through other enforcement efforts such as the 100 Days and Nights of Summer Campaign. The SFPD also conducts saturation patrols, and DWI checkpoints on a regular basis.

Drunk driving is a serious issue here in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and the SFPD is working hard to protect our citizens and reduce DWIs.

***Do you know, who you are
lending your car to?***

***Think twice before you
lend your car to someone.***

Innocent owners pay too.

For more information about the DWI Vehicle Forfeiture Program, please visit the City's website at www.santafenm.gov/police_dwi_forfeiture.



For more information on interlock ignition providers, please visit the City's website www.santafenm.gov/interlock_providers_information.