

Peabody Police

6 ALLEN'S LANE PEABODY, MASSACHUSETTS 01960



E-mail: <u>mail@peabodypolice.org</u> Website: www.peabodypolice.org Fax: (978) 538-6335

THOMAS M. GRIFFIN CHIEF OF POLICE (978)-538-6308

> FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 11, 2017

Community Relations Liaison: Michael Crane (978) 538-6338 mcrane@peabodypolice.org

"Park Smart"

As another impending potential weather related event approaches for Sunday/Monday, Peabody Police Chief Thomas Griffin, urges residents to plan ahead and have appropriate vehicle parking in place. "When the Director of Public Services declares the Emergency Parking Ban in effect, all vehicles must be removed from public roadways", said Griffin.

"During Friday's Blizzard, I'd like to thank residents for assisting to keep the roadways clear for public works. We had great cooperation. However, there were instances that required citations to be issued and/or vehicles towed. It's unfortunate when we have to tow any vehicle, but if it's impeding snow removal operations, or public safety, the vehicle will be removed.", said Griffin.

Getting towed or having a citation issued due to improper parking carries a monetary burden for the vehicle owner, as well as an inconvenience for both public safety officials and the registered owner of the vehicle. Typically, motor vehicle crashes rise during these events increasing the demand for Police emergency responses and the need for tow operators. "Although we have extra staffing on hand during these events, it becomes a very challenging environment for the Patrol Officers to maintain the call volume. If we have cooperation and the roadways are clear it's safer for everybody", said Griffin.

Another snow removal related issue that is reported quite frequently is inappropriate dumping. Please be courteous to your neighbors and be aware of property lines. Throwing snow in the street or plowing into the roadway is illegal and it creates a hazardous condition for pedestrians and vehicle traffic. Also, parking on sidewalks is strictly prohibited creating an extreme hazard for pedestrians.

(MORE)

The City of Peabody has an informational campaign in place to notify visitors and residents when an Emergency Parking Ban is in effect. Flashing blue lights are activated at several strategic roadway locations throughout the city to alert motorists of the restrictions; signage is also placed at these locations with instructions to tune your radio to AM1640 to hear a continuous public safety message indicating the immediate notification.

To receive personal notifications via email, or text messaging, visit <u>www.nixel.com</u>.

Plan ahead and "Park Smart"

(END)