

DOTS Fraudulent/Altered Permit Policy

A “Fraudulent” permit refers to facsimile not officially produced or licensed by the University of Maryland, Department of Transportation Services, but that is presented as a valid parking permit. The production and use of these “permits” constitute an act of fraud. Most fraudulent permits are home-made replicas produced by individuals acting alone using scanners and color laser printers. The Department of Transportation Services actively searches for these permits car to car during sporting events and throughout the year. When identified, enforcement officers write a 7B violation for “Illegal display and/or receipt of permit or decal” and tow the vehicle to an impound lot. 7B violations carry a \$300 fine and DOTS imposes an additional \$100 tow fee to impound and release the vehicle.

DOTS “No Passback” Policy

The “passing-back” of a permit most often occurs when one party transfers a single permit, previously used on one vehicle to gain access to a controlled parking lot, to a second party outside the controlled area. Since permits are issued to an individual and not a car, the individual authorized to use the permit may use it in any car. However, using a single permit to gain access and parking for two or more vehicles is prohibited and will result in denial of access to the vehicle receiving the “passed-back” permit. Individuals who receive these permits and gain illegal access could receive a 7N violation for “Illegally entering a controlled lot” and face towing to an impound lot. 7N violations carry a \$300 fine and DOTS imposes an additional \$100 tow fee to impound and release the vehicle.

On-site Transfer of Permit

Since police and lot attendants cannot discern whether an individual has several legitimately issued parking permits, or simply a single permit used repeatedly to gain access for several vehicles, any form of transfer on site is a violation of policy and will result in denial of access to the vehicle receiving the transferred permit. Individuals who receive these permits and gain illegal access could receive a 7N violation for “Illegally entering a controlled lot” and face towing to an impound lot. 7N violations carry a \$300 fine and DOTS imposes an additional \$100 tow fee to impound and release the vehicle.

Anyone who has found their vehicle to have been impounded may call the Department of Public Safety at 301 405-3555.