

## **Recovered/Held Property**

The Zion Police Evidence and Property Room is responsible for the safekeeping, storage and disposal of property recovered from arrestees, recovered as evidence in criminal investigations as well as other lost or abandoned items.

The Evidence and Property Room is open during normal business hours (Mon-Fri, 8:00 am-4:00 pm) and can be reached by calling 847-746-4095.

### **Lost/Recovered Property**

When lost property is recovered and turned into the police department, every reasonable attempt will be made to identify and return the property to its rightful owner. In many instances property is recovered but never reunited with its owner because there was never a report filed. If you have an item that you have lost or had stolen in Zion, your first action should be to file a police report.

Even if you have not filed a report, you can still check with the Evidence and Property Room during business hours to see if an item has been turned in.

### **Arrestee Property**

Arrestees that are being transferred to the County Jail system may have property that will not be accepted by the county. In these cases, the property is inventoried and held by the Evidence and Property Room. Arrestees are provided notice in writing of the property being held and have 30 days to claim their property. Arrestees may also designate someone to claim their property for them with written consent.

### **Property Pick-Up**

Individuals can pick up their property at the police department during business hours by checking in at the lobby and asking for the evidence custodian. To avoid delays and make certain that the property is ready to be released, please call the Evidence and Property Room first and schedule an appointment.

### **Required Identification/Proof of Ownership**

Anyone coming to pick up property will be required to provide identification in the form of a government issued photo ID (driver's license, state ID card, passport, etc.).

Depending on the nature of the property and the circumstances under which it was recovered, you may also need to provide proof of ownership. In order for a firearm to be returned, the owner must have and display a valid State of Illinois Firearms Owner Identification (FOID) card or Conceal Carry License (CCL) at the time of pick-up.

### **Fees for Storage**

Illinois statutes allow police agencies to require reimbursement from property owners for reasonable expenses incurred storing their property. It is the practice of the Zion Police Department to not require any reimbursement unless the item stored created an unusual storage expense.

Impounded vehicles will incur towing and daily storage fees as set by the towing and storage provider under contract with the City of Zion.

### **Property Disposal**

All unclaimed property is disposed of in accordance with state statute. If the owner of any personal property held by this department is KNOWN or can be reasonably determined to be the KNOWN, a "Notice to Owner" letter will be sent to the last known address of the owner via the United State Postal Service. This letter will provide instruction on how to reclaim the property. Personal property with KNOWN owners will be retained for 30 days from the post-marked date that the notice was sent.

Personal property with NO KNOWN owner is held for 180 days and then disposed of in accordance with state statute.

Under unusual circumstances, property owners may make a written request for an extension of the holding period. These requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

### **Property Auctions**

All usable property that is being disposed will be transferred to a public internet auction service. Currently, the Zion Police Department utilizes the services of [Propertyroom.com](http://Propertyroom.com) to auction off all of our abandoned, stolen, or lawfully seized property of every kind and description that has remained unclaimed beyond the time set by statute. This is an ongoing auction available 24 hour a day, 7 days a week. Items being auctioned include electronics, jewelry, clothing, bicycles, tools, sporting equipment and more. The official web site is [www.propertyroom.com](http://www.propertyroom.com).

### **Statutes on Lost/Stolen Property**

The City and State laws regulating the disposition of lost or stolen property can be found by clicking on the following links:

[Zion Ordinance Sec. 50-5 Custody of Lost, Abandoned or Stolen Property](#)

[765 ILCS 1020 Estrays and Lost Property Act](#)

[765 ILCS 1030 Law Enforcement Disposition of Property Act](#)

Discrepancies over the disposition of property held in the Zion Evidence and Property Room may be directed to the Investigations Division Commander.