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## UMC Brackenridge to Enforce Towing Policy

***The following message has been sent out this week by Kate Henderson, VP and chief operating officer of University Medical Center Brackenridge:***

New signs will be in place on Hospital Drive (between UMCB and the garage) by Saturday, Oct. 15, warning that vehicles parked in violation of posted restrictions will be towed at owners' expense.

Starting Oct. 15, towing can and will occur. Leeway that has been granted in the past regarding parking violations will no longer be granted because those spaces are reserved for specific purposes and specific Seton personnel who need parking access there.

It's also a matter of safety. Parking in fire zones and other designated vehicle areas can prevent emergency crews from providing immediate aid, potentially risking loss of life and property.

Violations will prove costly. Towing fees are regulated by the State of Texas, and currently it would cost \$192 if your car is towed and impounded for up to 24 hours. An additional \$22 per day storage fee is levied thereafter and a certified letter is required, by law, to be sent by the towing company to the vehicle's registered owner after 24 hours. That's another \$50 fee.

Towed vehicles will be taken to a lot at 4416 Brandt Road, near the Slaughter exit of I-35 in south Austin by Assured Towing, Seton's authorized towing vendor.

The idea that "the Daughters don't tow" is a relic from a different time. I urge you to heed Sr. Nannette Gentile, assistant to the president for executive formation, who recently explained it this way:

"The principle of concern for the common good might motivate the Daughters of Charity to favor towing. At its root, parking illegally is in conflict with our value of 'respect.' When we park somewhere we should not, we deprive those who are rightfully entitled to park there."