

Key Points of Relevant Statutes

Illegal Street Racing

A.R.S. 28-708 (link to full statute: <https://www.azleg.gov/ars/28/00708.htm>)

- Driving AND/OR participating in street race is illegal (even if just there to watch or phone record)
- One or more vehicles - comparing vehicle's acceleration, speeds, or time limit within certain distance
- Must be on a street or highway (Reckless driving would apply on private property / parking lots)

Misdemeanor

Aggressive Driving

A.R.S. 28-695 (link to full statute: <https://www.azleg.gov/ars/28/00695.htm>)

- Speeding AND 2 or more violations from list below (on road/highway)
 - o Disobeying traffic control device
 - o Passing on right by driving off pavement
 - o Unsafe lane change
 - o Following too close
 - o Fail to yield right of way
 - o And the behavior is an immediate hazard to another person or vehicle

Misdemeanor

Reckless Driving

A.R.S. 28-693 (link to full statute: <https://www.azleg.gov/ars/28/00693.htm>)

- Can be on Public AND/OR Private property
- Reckless disregard for safety of persons OR property

Examples: donuts, burnouts, multiple traffic violations, wheelies

Key Points of Relevant Statutes

Impounds

A.R.S. 28-3511 (link to full statute: <https://www.azleg.gov/ars/28/03511.htm>)

- Shall impound for Reckless Driving
 - Shall impound for Racing on Highways
- Shall impound if person uses vehicle to Obstruct Public Thoroughfare (blocking streets to facilitate street racing)

Impound Timelines

- For racing and reckless driving, vehicle is impounded for 20 days.
- Obstructing Public Thoroughfare is only impounded for 7 days.



Street Racing and Street Takeover Pamphlet



Ready to Protect, Proud to Serve

TUCSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

270 South Stone Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Non-Emergency 520-791-4444

<https://www.tucsonaz.gov/police>

Questions & Answers

Question: What is an illegal street race (racing on a highway)?

Answer: In short, an illegal street race is when motor vehicles are engaged in a contest of speed. See Arizona Revised Statute (ARS) 28-708 for a more in-depth explanation.

Question: What is a street takeover or sideshow?

Answer: A street takeover or sideshow is when a group of drivers blocks an intersection while doing doughnuts, burnouts, and drifting.

Question: What has TPD done about these issues?

Answer: In 2021, TPD noted an increase in street racing. Several regional deployments have been conducted resulting in numerous arrests. These deployments focused on large scale gatherings and *illegal racing*.

After a street takeover in August 2022 at Pantano and Escalante, we switched tactics to cultivate intelligence on potential events and deploy large numbers of staff to prevent and minimize *street takeovers*.

Q & A cont.

Question: How many arrests have you made using these tactics?

Answer: Since shifting focus in late 2022, we've made over 200 arrests in the deployments. Many of these arrests have been for trespassing on private property by spectators. Over 20 vehicles have been impounded and several firearms have been recovered. We've assigned investigative personnel to obtain court orders to gather and review evidence.

Question: What is TPD going to do about illegal street racing and street takeovers?

Answer: For the past month we've focused on blending a response between the two problems, illegal street racing and street takeovers. TPD has created a task force to "devise and implement strategies to address public safety issues caused by street racing and street takeovers."

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The task force is broken down into the following focus areas:

- Operations
- Intelligence
- Investigations
- Alternative Solutions and Sustainability

Question: What do I do if I see an illegal street race or street takeover?

Answer: If you are witnessing an illegal street race or street takeover, call 9-1-1 and report the activity. Try to avoid the area in the case of a street takeover and do not confront participants/spectators.

Alternative reporting: [Traffic Watch](#), an online form which an officer reviews to later contact the registered owner of the vehicle.

Google search:
Tucson Police Department Traffic Watch

OR

Direct Link:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/b831037dea9a425d83fa836628c7f87e>