Autonomous Vehicle Industry News
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New Autonomous Vehicle Laws | AB 87

Effective: January 1, 2019

Summary

CVC §38750, and California Code of Regulations Title 13, Article 3.7 and 3.8 authorize the operation of vehicles using Autonomous Technology on California public roadways.

Assembly Bill No. 87, Chapter 667, Statutes of 2018 amends § 22651 of the California Vehicle Code (CVC) by providing authority to peace officers or specified public employees to remove an autonomous vehicle operating without a valid permit issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles (CA DMV).

Important Details

Pursuant to CVC § 22651 a peace officer, or public employee engaged in directing traffic or enforcing parking laws and regulations of a city, county, or jurisdiction of a state agency may remove a vehicle found operating within the territorial limits in which the officer or employee has authority if:

- The registered owner or person in control of the vehicle does not have a valid Autonomous Vehicle (AV) Permit (Manufacturer Testing Permit, Driverless or Deployment) issued by the CA DMV
- The vehicle is operating with autonomous technology after the registered owner, or person in control of the vehicle received notice that their AV Permit is suspended, terminated, or revoked.

If the vehicle has been removed from the public roadway, it may be released to the registered owner, or person in control of the vehicle, upon the following being provided:

- Proof of a valid AV permit required to operate the autonomous vehicle or
- A declaration or sworn statement to the CA DMV stating that the AV will not be operated using autonomous technology on public roads without first obtaining a valid AV permit from the CA DMV.

Questions regarding the information contained in this memo may be directed to the Autonomous Vehicles Branch at autonomousvehicles@dmv.ca.gov.