

28-624. Authorized emergency vehicles

A. If an authorized emergency vehicle is driven in response to an emergency call, in pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of law or in response to but not on return from a fire alarm, the driver may exercise the privileges provided in this section subject to the conditions stated in this section.

B. If the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle is operating at least one lighted lamp displaying a red or red and blue light or lens visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of five hundred feet to the front of the vehicle, the driver may:

1. Notwithstanding this chapter, park or stand.
2. Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as necessary for safe operation.
3. Exceed the prima facie speed limits if the driver does not endanger life or property.
4. Disregard laws or rules governing the direction of movement or turning in specified directions.

C. The exemptions authorized by this section for an authorized emergency vehicle apply only if the driver of the vehicle while in motion sounds an audible signal by bell, siren or exhaust whistle as reasonably necessary and if the vehicle is equipped with at least one lighted lamp displaying a red or red and blue light or lens visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of five hundred feet to the front of the vehicle, except that an authorized emergency vehicle operated as a police vehicle need not be equipped with or display a red or red and blue light or lens visible from in front of the vehicle.

D. This section does not relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons and does not protect the driver from the consequences of the driver's reckless disregard for the safety of others.

28-101. Definitions

In this title, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. "Alcohol" means any substance containing any form of alcohol, including ethanol, methanol, propynol and isopropynol.
2. "Alcohol concentration" if expressed as a percentage means either:
 - (a) The number of grams of alcohol per one hundred milliliters of blood.
 - (b) The number of grams of alcohol per two hundred ten liters of breath.
3. "All-terrain vehicle" means a motor vehicle that satisfies all of the following:
 - (a) Is designed primarily for recreational nonhighway all-terrain travel.
 - (b) Is fifty or fewer inches in width.
 - (c) Has an unladen weight of eight hundred pounds or less.
 - (d) Travels on three or more low pressure tires.
 - (e) Has a seat to be straddled by the operator and handlebars for steering control.
 - (f) Is operated on a public highway.
4. "Authorized emergency vehicle" means any of the following:
 - (a) A fire department vehicle.
 - (b) A police vehicle.
 - (c) An ambulance or emergency vehicle of a municipal department or public service corporation that is designated or authorized by the department or a local authority.
 - (d) Any other ambulance, fire truck or rescue vehicle that is authorized by the department in its sole discretion and that meets liability insurance requirements prescribed by the department.
5. "Aviation fuel" means all flammable liquids composed of a mixture of selected hydrocarbons

expressly manufactured and blended for the purpose of effectively and efficiently operating an internal combustion engine for use in an aircraft but does not include fuel for jet or turbine powered aircraft.

6. "Bicycle" means a device, including a racing wheelchair, that is propelled by human power and on which a person may ride and that has either:

(a) Two tandem wheels, either of which is more than sixteen inches in diameter.

(b) Three wheels in contact with the ground, any of which is more than sixteen inches in diameter.

7. "Board" means the transportation board.

8. "Bus" means a motor vehicle designed for carrying sixteen or more passengers, including the driver.

9. "Business district" means the territory contiguous to and including a highway if there are buildings in use for business or industrial purposes within any six hundred feet along the highway, including hotels, banks or office buildings, railroad stations and public buildings that occupy at least three hundred feet of frontage on one side or three hundred feet collectively on both sides of the highway.

10. "Combination of vehicles" means a truck or truck tractor and semitrailer and any trailer that it tows but does not include a forklift designed for the purpose of loading or unloading the truck, trailer or semitrailer.

11. "Controlled substance" means a substance so classified under section 102(6) of the controlled substances act (21 United States Code section 802(6)) and includes all substances listed in schedules I through V of 21 Code of Federal Regulations part 1308.

12. "Conviction" means:

(a) An unvacated adjudication of guilt or a determination that a person violated or failed to comply with the law in a court of original jurisdiction or by an authorized administrative tribunal.

(b) An unvacated forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure the person's appearance in court.

(c) A plea of guilty or no contest accepted by the court.

(d) The payment of a fine or court costs.

13. "County highway" means a public road constructed and maintained by a county.

14. "Dealer" means a person who is engaged in the business of buying, selling or exchanging motor

vehicles, trailers or semitrailers and who has an established place of business.

15. "Department" means the department of transportation acting directly or through its duly authorized officers and agents.

16. "Director" means the director of the department of transportation.

17. "Drive" means to operate or be in actual physical control of a motor vehicle.

18. "Driver" means a person who drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle.

19. "Driver license" means a license that is issued by a state to an individual and that authorizes the individual to drive a motor vehicle.

20. "Electric personal assistive mobility device" means a self-balancing two nontandem wheeled device with an electric propulsion system that limits the maximum speed of the device to fifteen miles per hour or less and that is designed to transport only one person.

21. "Farm tractor" means a motor vehicle designed and used primarily as a farm implement for drawing implements of husbandry.

22. "Foreign vehicle" means a motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer that is brought into this state other than in the ordinary course of business by or through a manufacturer or dealer and that has not been registered in this state.

23. "Golf cart" means a motor vehicle that has not less than three wheels in contact with the ground, that has an unladen weight of less than one thousand eight hundred pounds, that is designed to be and is operated at not more than twenty-five miles per hour and that is designed to carry not more than four persons including the driver.

24. "Hazardous material" means a material, and its mixtures or solutions, that the United States department of transportation determines under 49 Code of Federal Regulations is capable of posing an unreasonable risk to health, safety and property if transported in commerce and that is required to be placarded or marked as required by the department's safety rules prescribed pursuant to chapter 14 of this title.

25. "Implement of husbandry" means a vehicle designed primarily for agricultural purposes and used exclusively in the conduct of agricultural operations, including an implement or vehicle whether self-propelled or otherwise that meets all of the following conditions:

(a) Is used exclusively for carrying products of farming from one part of a farm to another part of the same farm or from one farm to another farm.

(b) Is used solely for agricultural purposes including the preparation or harvesting of cotton, alfalfa, grains and other farm crops.

(c) Is only incidentally operated or moved on a highway whether as a trailer or self-propelled unit.

26. "Limousine" means a motor vehicle providing prearranged ground transportation service for an individual passenger, or a group of passengers, that is arranged in advance or is operated on a regular route or between specified points and includes ground transportation under a contract or agreement for services that includes a fixed rate or time and is provided in a motor vehicle with a seating capacity not exceeding fifteen passengers including the driver.

27. "Livery vehicle" means a motor vehicle that:

(a) Has a seating capacity not exceeding fifteen passengers including the driver.

(b) Provides passenger services for a fare determined by a flat rate or flat hourly rate between geographic zones or within a geographic area.

(c) Is available for hire on an exclusive or shared ride basis.

(d) May do any of the following:

(i) Operate on a regular route or between specified places.

(ii) Offer prearranged ground transportation as defined in section 28-141.

(iii) Offer on demand ground transportation service pursuant to a contract with a public airport, licensed business entity or organization.

28. "Local authority" means any county, municipal or other local board or body exercising jurisdiction over highways under the constitution and laws of this state.

29. "Manufacturer" means a person engaged in the business of manufacturing motor vehicles, trailers or semitrailers.

30. "Moped" means a bicycle that is equipped with a helper motor if the vehicle has a maximum piston displacement of fifty cubic centimeters or less, a brake horsepower of one and one-half or less and a maximum speed of twenty-five miles per hour or less on a flat surface with less than a one per cent grade.

31. "Motor driven cycle" means a motorcycle, including every motor scooter, with a motor that produces not more than five horsepower.

32. "Motor vehicle":

(a) Means either:

(i) A self-propelled vehicle.

(ii) For the purposes of the laws relating to the imposition of a tax on motor vehicle fuel, a vehicle that is operated on the highways of this state and that is propelled by the use of motor vehicle fuel.

(b) Does not include a motorized wheelchair, an electric personal assistive mobility device or a motorized skateboard. For the purposes of this subdivision:

(i) "Motorized skateboard" means a self-propelled device that has a motor, a deck on which a person may ride and at least two tandem wheels in contact with the ground.

(ii) "Motorized wheelchair" means a self-propelled wheelchair that is used by a person for mobility.

33. "Motor vehicle fuel" includes all products that are commonly or commercially known or sold as gasoline, including casinghead gasoline, natural gasoline and all flammable liquids, and that are composed of a mixture of selected hydrocarbons expressly manufactured and blended for the purpose of effectively and efficiently operating internal combustion engines. Motor vehicle fuel does not include inflammable liquids that are specifically manufactured for racing motor vehicles and that are distributed for and used by racing motor vehicles at a racetrack, use fuel as defined in section 28-5601, aviation fuel, fuel for jet or turbine powered aircraft or the mixture created at the interface of two different substances being transported through a pipeline, commonly known as transmix.

34. "Motorcycle" means a motor vehicle that has a seat or saddle for the use of the rider and that is designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground but excluding a tractor and a moped.

35. "Neighborhood electric vehicle" means a self-propelled electrically powered motor vehicle to which all of the following apply:

(a) The vehicle is emission free.

(b) The vehicle is designed to carry four or fewer persons.

(c) The vehicle is designed to be and is operated at speeds of twenty-five miles per hour or less.

(d) The vehicle has at least four wheels in contact with the ground.

(e) The vehicle has an unladen weight of less than one thousand eight hundred pounds.

36. "Nonresident" means a person who is not a resident of this state as defined in section 28-2001.

37. "Off-road recreational motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle that is designed primarily for recreational nonhighway all-terrain travel and that is not operated on a public highway. Off-road recreational motor vehicle does not mean a motor vehicle used for construction, building trade, mining or agricultural purposes.

38. "Operator" means a person who drives a motor vehicle on a highway, who is in actual physical control of a motor vehicle on a highway or who is exercising control over or steering a vehicle being towed by a motor vehicle.

39. "Owner" means:

(a) A person who holds the legal title of a vehicle.

(b) If a vehicle is the subject of an agreement for the conditional sale or lease with the right of purchase on performance of the conditions stated in the agreement and with an immediate right of possession vested in the conditional vendee or lessee, the conditional vendee or lessee.

(c) If a mortgagor of a vehicle is entitled to possession of the vehicle, the mortgagor.

40. "Pedestrian" means any person afoot. A person who uses an electric personal assistive mobility device or a manual or motorized wheelchair is considered a pedestrian unless the manual wheelchair qualifies as a bicycle. For the purposes of this paragraph, "motorized wheelchair" means a self-propelled wheelchair that is used by a person for mobility.

41. "Power sweeper" means an implement, with or without motive power, that is only incidentally operated or moved on a street or highway and that is designed for the removal of debris, dirt, gravel, litter or sand whether by broom, vacuum or regenerative air system from asphaltic concrete or cement concrete surfaces, including parking lots, highways, streets and warehouses, and a vehicle on which the implement is permanently mounted.

42. "Public transit" means the transportation of passengers on scheduled routes by means of a conveyance on an individual passenger fare-paying basis excluding transportation by a sight-seeing bus, school bus or taxi or a vehicle not operated on a scheduled route basis.

43. "Reconstructed vehicle" means a vehicle that has been assembled or constructed largely by means of

essential parts, new or used, derived from vehicles or makes of vehicles of various names, models and types or that, if originally otherwise constructed, has been materially altered by the removal of essential parts or by the addition or substitution of essential parts, new or used, derived from other vehicles or makes of vehicles. For the purposes of this paragraph, "essential parts" means integral and body parts, the removal, alteration or substitution of which will tend to conceal the identity or substantially alter the appearance of the vehicle.

44. "Residence district" means the territory contiguous to and including a highway not comprising a business district if the property on the highway for a distance of three hundred feet or more is in the main improved with residences or residences and buildings in use for business.

45. "Right-of-way" when used within the context of the regulation of the movement of traffic on a highway means the privilege of the immediate use of the highway. Right-of-way when used within the context of the real property on which transportation facilities and appurtenances to the facilities are constructed or maintained means the lands or interest in lands within the right-of-way boundaries.

46. "School bus" means a motor vehicle that is designed for carrying more than ten passengers and that is either:

(a) Owned by any public or governmental agency or other institution and operated for the transportation of children to or from home or school on a regularly scheduled basis.

(b) Privately owned and operated for compensation for the transportation of children to or from home or school on a regularly scheduled basis.

47. "Semitrailer" means a vehicle that is with or without motive power, other than a pole trailer, that is designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and that is constructed so that some part of its weight and that of its load rests on or is carried by another vehicle. For the purposes of this paragraph, "pole trailer" has the same meaning prescribed in section 28-601.

48. "State" means a state of the United States and the District of Columbia.

49. "State highway" means a state route or portion of a state route that is accepted and designated by the board as a state highway and that is maintained by the state.

50. "State route" means a right-of-way whether actually used as a highway or not that is designated by the board as a location for the construction of a state highway.

51. "Street" or "highway" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way if a part of the way is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.

52. "Taxi" means a motor vehicle that has a seating capacity not exceeding fifteen passengers, including

the driver, that is registered as a taxi in this state or any other state, that provides passenger services and that:

- (a) Does not operate on a regular route or between specified places.
- (b) Offers local transportation for a fare determined primarily on the basis of the distance traveled.

53. "Trailer" means a vehicle that is with or without motive power, other than a pole trailer, that is designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and that is constructed so that no part of its weight rests on the towing vehicle. A semitrailer equipped with an auxiliary front axle commonly known as a dolly is deemed to be a trailer. For the purposes of this paragraph, "pole trailer" has the same meaning prescribed in section 28-601.

54. "Truck" means a motor vehicle designed or used primarily for the carrying of property other than the effects of the driver or passengers and includes a motor vehicle to which has been added a box, a platform or other equipment for such carrying.

55. "Truck tractor" means a motor vehicle that is designed and used primarily for drawing other vehicles and that is not constructed to carry a load other than a part of the weight of the vehicle and load drawn.

56. "Vehicle" means a device in, on or by which a person or property is or may be transported or drawn on a public highway, excluding devices moved by human power or used exclusively on stationary rails or tracks.

57. "Vehicle transporter" means either:

- (a) A truck tractor capable of carrying a load and drawing a semitrailer.
- (b) A truck tractor with a stinger-steered fifth wheel capable of carrying a load and drawing a semitrailer or a truck tractor with a dolly mounted fifth wheel that is securely fastened to the truck tractor at two or more points and that is capable of carrying a load and drawing a semitrailer.

28-775. Authorized emergency vehicles; approaching; following fire apparatus; defensive driving schools; driver license examinations

A. Except when otherwise directed by a police officer, on the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a red or red and blue light or lens visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of five hundred feet to the front of the vehicle and that is giving an audible signal by siren, exhaust whistle or bell, the driver of another vehicle shall:

1. Yield the right-of-way.
2. Immediately drive to a position parallel to and as close as possible to the right-hand edge or curb of the roadway clear of any intersection.
3. Stop and remain in the position prescribed in paragraph 2 of this subsection until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed.

B. An authorized emergency vehicle being operated with activated emergency lights and siren is exempt from the requirements of this section.

C. The driver of a vehicle other than one on official business shall not follow any fire apparatus traveling in response to a fire alarm closer than five hundred feet or drive into or park the vehicle within the block where fire apparatus has stopped in answer to a fire alarm.

D. When a police vehicle is giving a visual signal with at least one lighted red or red and blue light or lens and is giving an audible signal by siren, the driver of another vehicle:

1. Shall not approach or drive parallel to the police vehicle.
2. Shall maintain a distance of at least three hundred feet behind any police vehicle involved in an emergency until the police vehicle moves to the lane closest to the right-hand edge or curb of the roadway.

E. If A person who drives a vehicle approaches a stationary authorized emergency vehicle and the authorized emergency vehicle is giving a signal by displaying alternately flashing red or red and blue lights, the person shall do either of the following:

1. If on a highway having at least four lanes with at least two lanes proceeding in the same direction as the approaching vehicle, proceed with due caution and if possible, with due regard to safety and traffic conditions, yield the right-of-way by making a lane change into a lane not adjacent to that of the authorized emergency vehicle.

2. If changing lanes would be impossible or unsafe, proceed with due caution and reduce the speed of the vehicle, maintaining a safe speed for road conditions.

F. This section does not relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway.

G. Defensive driving school courses that are offered by defensive driving schools operated pursuant to chapter 8, article 7 of this title may include educational information relating to subsections D and E. The department may include information relating to subsections D and E in any of the department's examination, information or education material.

28-904. Driving on sidewalk

A. A person shall not drive a vehicle on a sidewalk area except on a permanent or duly authorized temporary driveway.

B. This section does not apply to a motorized wheelchair, electric personal assistive mobility device, authorized emergency vehicle, security vehicle owned by this state or small service vehicle owned by this state or a political subdivision of this state.

28-954. Horns and warning devices

A. A motor vehicle when operated on a highway shall be equipped with a horn that is in good working order and that is capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of at least two hundred feet. Any horn or other warning device shall not emit an unreasonably loud or harsh sound or a whistle.

B. If reasonably necessary to ensure the safe operation of a motor vehicle, the driver shall give an audible warning with the driver's horn but shall not otherwise use the horn when on a highway.

C. A vehicle shall not be equipped with and a person shall not use on a vehicle a siren, whistle or bell, except as otherwise permitted in this section.

D. A vehicle may but is not required to be equipped with a theft alarm signal device that is arranged so that it cannot be used by the driver as an ordinary warning signal.

E. An authorized emergency vehicle may be equipped with a siren, whistle or bell that is capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of at least five hundred feet and that is of a type approved by the department. The siren shall not be used except when the vehicle is operated in response to an emergency call or in the immediate pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law or when necessary to serve a civil traffic complaint. During these events the driver of the vehicle shall sound the siren when reasonably necessary to warn pedestrians and other drivers of the approach of the emergency vehicle.

F. A siren shall be allowed on a fire engine that is solely used for hobby or display purposes and that has been issued a historic vehicle license plate pursuant to section 28-2484 if either of the following applies:

1. The siren is covered and is not activated while a person is transporting or driving the vehicle to or from a parade, authorized assemblage of historic vehicles or test.

2. The siren is activated only in a parade, for an authorized assemblage of historic vehicles or for testing purposes.