

 Oklahoma Statutes Citationized

 Title 47. Motor Vehicles

 Chapter 12

 Highway Safety Code

 Article Article 2

 Section 12-218 - Audible and Visual Signals on Law Enforcement and Authorized Emergency Vehicles
Superseded

Superseded
Effective: 07/01/2000

Superseded

Cite as: O.S. §, ___ __

A. Every authorized **emergency vehicle** shall, in addition to any other equipment and distinctive markings required by this act, be equipped with a siren, exhaust whistle or bell capable of giving an audible signal.

B. Every school bus used for transportation of school children and every authorized **emergency vehicle** shall, in addition to any other equipment and distinctive markings required by this act, be equipped with signal lamps mounted as high and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, which shall be capable of displaying to the front two alternately flashing red, or for authorized **emergency vehicles**, flashing red or blue lights located at the same level, and these lights shall have sufficient intensity to be visible at five hundred (500) feet in normal sunlight or, as an alternative, authorized **emergency vehicles** may use one or blue red signal lamp so located at or near the top of the vehicle which when lighted is visible for a distance of five hundred (500) feet in normal sunlight both to the front and to the rear of the vehicle.

C. A law enforcement vehicle when used as an authorized **emergency vehicle** may but need not be equipped with alternately-flashing red lights specified herein. An unmarked vehicle used as a law enforcement vehicle for routine traffic enforcement shall be equipped with the following combination of lights:

1. Three flashing red, blue, or a combination of red and blue lights emitting the flashing lights to the

front of the vehicle;

2. Two flashing white lights emitting the flashing white lights to the front of the vehicle;

3. Flashing red, blue, white or any combination of red, blue or white lights placed at and emitting the flashing lights from the four corners of the vehicle so that they are visible for three hundred sixty (360) degrees; and

4. One flashing red, blue, yellow, or any combination of red, blue, or yellow lights emitting the flashing light to the rear of the vehicle.

D. The use of the signal equipment described herein shall impose upon drivers of other vehicles the obligation to yield right-of-way and stop as prescribed in Sections 47-11-405 and 47-11-705 of this act.

E. It shall be unlawful for any person to use audible signal equipment from a motor vehicle for the purpose of causing any other motor vehicle operator to yield right-of-way and stop. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to vehicles of any fire department, fire patrol, law enforcement vehicles, ambulances, or other authorized **emergency vehicles**.

Historical Data

Added by Laws 1961, HB 556, p. 399, § 12-218, eff. September 1, 1961; Amended by Laws 1993, SB 43, c. 13, § 4, emerg. eff. March 24, 1993; Amended by Laws 1998, HB 2251, c. 55, § 1, eff. November 1, 1998 ([superseded document available](#)); Amended by Laws 1999, HB 1212, c. 24, § 3, emerg. eff. July 1, 1999 ([superseded document available](#)).

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 Oklahoma Statutes Citationized

 Title 47. Motor Vehicles

 Chapter 11

 Highway Safety Code

 Article Article 1

 Section 11-106 - Authorized Emergency Vehicles

Cite as: O.S. §, ___ ___

A. The driver of an authorized **emergency vehicle**, when responding to an emergency call or when in the pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law or when responding to but not upon returning from a fire alarm, may exercise the privilege set forth in this section, but subject to the conditions herein stated.

B. The driver of an authorized **emergency vehicle** may:

1. Park, or stand, irrespective of the provisions of this chapter;
2. Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation;
3. Exceed the maximum speed limits so long as speeding does not endanger life or property;
4. Disregard regulations governing direction of movement; and
5. Disregard regulations governing turning in specified directions.

C. The exemptions herein granted to the driver of an authorized **emergency vehicle** shall apply only when the driver is properly and lawfully making use of an audible signal or of flashing red or blue lights or a combination of flashing red and blue lights meeting the requirements of Section 12-218 of this title, except that an authorized **emergency vehicle** operated as a police vehicle need not be equipped with or display a red or blue light visible from in front of the vehicle. This subsection shall not be construed as requiring a peace officer operating a police vehicle properly and lawfully in response to a crime in progress to use audible signals.

D. The exemptions in paragraphs 3 and 5 of subsection B of this section shall be granted to a law enforcement officer operating an authorized **emergency vehicle** for law enforcement purposes without using audible and visual signals required by this section as long as the action does not endanger life or property if the officer is following a suspected violator of the law with probable cause to believe that:

1. Knowledge of the presence of the officer will cause the suspect to:

a. destroy or lose evidence of a suspected felony,

b. end a suspected continuing felony before the officer has obtained sufficient evidence to establish grounds for arrest, or

c. evade apprehension or identification of the suspect or the vehicle of the suspect; or

2. Because of traffic conditions, vehicles moving in response to the audible or visual signals may increase the potential for a collision.

The exceptions granted in this subsection shall not apply to an officer who is in actual pursuit of a person who is eluding or attempting to elude the officer in violation of Section 540A of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

E. The provisions of this section shall not relieve the driver of an authorized **emergency vehicle** from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons, nor shall such provisions protect the driver from the consequences of reckless disregard for the safety of others.

Historical Data

Laws 1961, p. 373, § 11-106; Amended by Laws 1998, c. 168, § 1, eff. November 1, 1998 ([superseded document available](#)); Amended by Laws 1999, SB 84, c. 189, § 1, eff. July 1, 1999 ([superseded document available](#)); Amended by Laws 2002, HB 2379, c. 229, § 1, eff. November 1, 2002 ([superseded document available](#)); Amended by Laws 2004, HB 2265, c. 418, § 12, emerg. eff. July 1, 2004 ([superseded document available](#)).

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 Title 47. Motor Vehicles

 Chapter 11

 Highway Safety Code

 Article Article 4

 Section 11-405 - Operation Of Vehicles On Approach Of Authorized Emergency Vehicles.

Cite as: O.S. §, ___ __

A. Upon the immediate approach of an authorized **emergency vehicle** making use of audible and visual signals meeting the requirements of Section 12-218 of this act, or of a police vehicle properly and lawfully making use of an audible signal or red flashing lights, the driver of every other vehicle shall yield the right-of-way and shall 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 and shall stop and remain in such position until the authorized **emergency vehicle** has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer.

B. This section shall not be construed to require a peace officer operating a police vehicle properly and lawfully in response to a crime in progress to use audible signals nor shall this section operate to 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.

Historical Data

Laws 1961, p. 379, § 11-405; Amended by Laws 1997, c. 322, § 4, eff. May 29, 1997 ([superseded document available](#)).

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 **Oklahoma Statutes Citationized** **Title 47. Motor Vehicles** **Chapter 12** **Highway Safety Code** **Article Article IV -- Miscellaneous Equipment** **Section 12-401 - Horns And Warning Devices.**

Cite as: O.S. §, ___ __

A. Every motor vehicle when operated upon a highway shall be equipped with a horn in good working order and capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than two hundred (200) feet, but no horn or other warning device shall emit an unreasonably loud or harsh sound. The driver of a motor vehicle shall, when reasonably necessary to insure safe operation, give audible warning with a horn but shall not otherwise use such horn when upon a highway.

B. No vehicle shall be equipped with nor shall any person use upon a vehicle any siren except as otherwise permitted in subsection D of this section.

C. Any vehicle may be equipped with a theft alarm signal device which is so arranged that it cannot be used by the driver as an ordinary warning signal. A theft alarm signal device shall not use a siren, as described in subsection D of this section.

D. Every authorized **emergency vehicle** shall, in addition to any other equipment and distinctive markings required by this title, be equipped with a siren, or similar device, capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than five hundred (500) feet and of a type approved by the Department of Public Safety, but such siren shall not be used except when such vehicle is operated in response to an emergency call or in the immediate pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law, in which said latter events the driver of such vehicle shall sound said siren when reasonably necessary to warn pedestrians and other drivers of the approach thereof.

E. It shall be unlawful for any person to use a device capable of producing auditory warning signals similar to that on an authorized **emergency vehicle** or to use audible signal equipment from a motor vehicle for the purpose of causing any other motor vehicle operator to yield right-of-way and stop, or which actually causes any other motor vehicle operator to yield the right-of-way and stop, whether intended or not. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to the operators of authorized

emergency vehicles.

Historical Data

Laws 1961, p. 407, § 12-401; Amended by Laws 2003, SB 633, c. 411, § 50, eff. November 1, 2003 ([superseded document available](#)).

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 Title 47. Motor Vehicles

 Chapter 12

 Highway Safety Code

 Article Article 2

 Section 12-227 - Special Restriction On Lamps
Superceded

Superceded
Effective: 11/01/2003

Superceded

Cite as: O.S. §, __ __

A. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle, other than head lamps, spot lamps, auxiliary lamps, flashing turn signals, **emergency vehicle** warning lamps, construction and maintenance vehicle warning lamps, and school bus warning lamps, which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than three hundred (300) candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the high intensity portion of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than seventy-five (75) feet from the vehicle.

B. No person shall drive or move any vehicle or equipment upon any highway with any lamp or device thereon displaying a red or blue light visible from directly in front of the center thereof. This section shall not apply to any vehicle upon which a red or blue light visible from the front is expressly authorized or required by this title.

C. Flashing lights are prohibited except on an authorized **emergency vehicle**, school bus, church bus as defined in Section 11-705.1 of this title, snow-removal equipment, wreckers and tow vehicles while at the scene of an emergency, or on any vehicle as a means of indicating a right or left turn, or the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing. Flashing red or blue lights or a combination of flashing red and blue lights may be used on authorized **emergency vehicles**, or on vehicles or machinery owned or operated by any agency of the state or by any county or city when engaged in the performance of emergency work or on the construction or maintenance of highways or bridges, or on wreckers and tow vehicles at the scene of an emergency.

D. Blue lights are prohibited except as allowed in subsection C of this section.

E. Any person violating the provisions of subsection B, C or D of this section shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six (6) months, or by a fine not exceeding Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00), or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Historical Data

Added by Laws 1961, HB 556, p. 402, § 12-227, eff. September 1, 1961; Amended by Laws 1978, c. 262, § 3, eff. October 1, 1978; Amended by Laws 1993, c. 13, § 5, emerg. eff. March 24, 1993; Amended by Laws 1996, c. 22, § 3, eff. July 1, 1996; Amended by Laws 1998, c. 26, § 1, eff. November 1, 1998; Amended by Laws 1999, c. 189, § 3, eff. July 1, 1999.

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Oklahoma Statutes Citationized

Title 47. Motor Vehicles

Chapter 11

Highway Safety Code

Article Article 11

Section 11-1108 - Following Fire Apparatus And Other Emergency Vehicles Prohibited.

Cite as: O.S. §, ___ __

(a) The driver of any vehicle other than one on official business shall not follow any fire apparatus traveling in response to a fire alarm closer than five hundred (500) feet or drive into or park such vehicle within the block where fire apparatus has stopped in answer to a fire alarm.

(b) The driver of any vehicle other than one on official business shall not follow any **emergency vehicle** or shall not purposely drive to any location on a highway where an emergency exists which would interfere with the free movement of authorized **emergency vehicles** or any other traffic using the highway at that location. For the purpose of this subsection the definition of emergency shall include traffic accidents, airplane accidents, disasters, explosions, civil disturbances and (without limitation by the foregoing) any other related circumstances which tend to cause traffic congestion.

The purpose of this subsection is to eliminate sightseers and other persons who do not have official business at the scene of an emergency, and whose presence would tend to cause traffic congestion.

Historical Data

Laws 1961, p. 389, § 11-1108.

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 **Oklahoma Statutes Citationized** **Title 47. Motor Vehicles** **Chapter 11** **Highway Safety Code** **Article Article 2** **Section 11-208 - Possessing, Using, or Interfering With a Traffic Signal Preemption Device**

Cite as: O.S. §, __ __

A. As used in this section, the term "traffic signal preemption device" shall mean a device designed for use by authorized **emergency vehicles** to improve traffic movement by temporarily controlling signalized intersections.

B. It shall be unlawful for a person to possess, use, or interfere with a traffic signal preemption device unless:

1. The person is the operator of an authorized **emergency vehicle** upon which the device is installed; and
2. The person is responding to an existing or potential emergency and there is a threat of immediate danger to life or property which reasonably requires the use of the device in order to protect the life, safety, health, or property of another person.

C. It shall be unlawful to advertise, offer for sale, sell, or otherwise distribute any traffic signal preemption device to any individual person in this state. Advertising, offering for sale, selling, and distribution of these devices shall be limited to trade publications and companies whose target market is law enforcement agencies, fire departments, and ambulance service providers of this state or its political subdivisions.

Historical Data

Added by Laws 2004, HB 2444, c. 130, § 8, emerg. eff. April 20, 2004.

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Title 47. Motor Vehicles

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Title 47. Motor Vehicles

Chapter 1

Highway Safety Code

Section 1-103 - Emergency Vehicles

Superseded

Superseded
Effective: 09/01/2005

Superseded

Cite as: O.S. §, ___ __

Vehicles of fire departments, ambulances, vehicles specified pursuant to subsection B of Section 1-2512 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes of licensed ambulance service providers, county sheriff vehicles of sheriffs and full-time commissioned deputies and police vehicles, including vehicles owned and operated by the United States Marshals Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or by any local organization for emergency management as defined by Section 683.3 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes, are authorized **emergency vehicles**. Said vehicles shall be equipped with sirens capable of giving audible signals as required by the provisions of Section 12-218 of this title and flashing red lights as authorized by the provisions of Section 12-218 of this title.

Historical Data

Amended by Laws 1983, c. 220, § 1, eff. November 1, 1983; Amended by Laws 1984, c. 29, § 1, eff. November 1, 1984; Amended by Laws 1987, c. 74, § 1, eff. November 1, 1987; Amended by Laws 1991, c. 167, § 1, eff. July 1, 1991; Amended by Laws 2003, HB 1512, c. 329, § 58, emerg. eff. May 29, 2003 ([superseded document available](#)).

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