

# BOONE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

Subject: Vehicle Operations

Number: DRAFT

Approved: DRAFT Revised:

Approved By:

1

Section

Scott Olsen, Fire Chief Dave Griggs, Board Chair

#### 1.0 ACCREDITATION REFERENCE

1.1 Category: Operations

1.2 Criterion: 7F Risk Management and Personnel Safety

1.2 Performance Indicators:7F.3

#### 2.0 **DEFINITIONS**

- 2.1 Bona Fide Emergency: Any incident response that Public Safety Joint Communications (PSJC) initiates that is NOT specifically assigned non-emergency response. Any incident response self-initiated by a member of Boone County Fire Protection District in response to a report of an incident that in his/her estimation requires emergency response.
- 2.2 Emergency Response: A response to an incident using emergency warning lights and siren.
- 2.3 Emergency Vehicle: Any vehicle owned and operated by the Boone County Fire Protection District for the purposes of emergency or non-emergency incident response; any vehicle owned and operated by a member of the Boone County Fire Protection District that is authorized by the Fire Chief to respond to emergency or non-emergency incidents.
- 2.4 Non-Emergency Response: A response to an incident NOT using emergency warning lights and siren. The vehicle operator adheres to all laws and regulations governing normal driving operation
- 2.5 Vehicle: Any motorized piece of equipment utilized for the transportation of people and/or goods.

#### 3.0 PURPOSE

The vehicles owned and/or operated by personnel of the Boone County Fire Protection District are used to carry out the function of delivering effective and efficient fire, rescue and emergency medical care to those in need. The operators of these vehicles will adhere to guidelines that ensure safe vehicular operations.

#### 4.0 POLICY

4.1 It is the policy of the Boone County Fire Protection District that all members, when acting on behalf of the Boone County Fire Protection District and when

operating vehicles under emergency or non-emergency conditions, will do so with due regard for the safety of all persons and property and in accordance with state laws regulating the operation of motor vehicles.

#### 5.0 PROCEDURES

## 5.1 <u>Vehicle Operators/Passengers</u>

- 5.1.1 All personnel must have and maintain a valid driver license and current vehicle insurance coverage while a member of the Fire District.
  - 5.1.1.1 If a member of the Fire District has been charged with a moving traffic violation or if their operator license has been suspended or revoked, that member must immediately notify their ranking station officer and the Fire Chief. The member may be suspended from operational duties pending a review of their case.
- 5.1.2 All passengers riding in Fire District owned vehicles must be current, active members of the Fire District. Exceptions may be authorized by the Fire Chief or his designee.
- 5.1.3 Personnel who respond to incidents in personal vehicles and DO NOT possess approved emergency warning equipment AND a blue light permit issued by the Fire Chief of the Boone County Fire Protection District shall follow all applicable state and local traffic laws and ordinances during their response.

## 5.2 Operation Of Fire District Vehicles

- 5.2.1 Fire District personnel shall only be authorized to operate those pieces of apparatus that they have been trained on and upon which have successfully completed the defined evaluation procedure established for that particular piece of apparatus by the Operations & Training Bureau Director and the officer(s) for the station to which that piece of apparatus is assigned.
- 5.2.2 If a firefighter is authorized to operate a piece of apparatus and identical pieces of apparatus exist elsewhere in the District, the firefighter is also authorized to operate the identical apparatus.

## 5.3 Routine Vehicle Operations

- 5.3.1 Whenever a vehicle is in motion, all personnel must have their seat belts securely fastened.
- 5.3.2 Personnel will only sit in designated seats that are designed for vehicular operation.
- 5.3.3 Riding on the tail board of a fire apparatus during non-emergency or emergency operations is forbidden. The only exception to this rule is when personnel are engaged in the activity of loading hose or when riding as a member of the Truman Taxi crew in accordance with the Game Day Operations Policy. In this situation the apparatus shall be operated at a speed of 10 mph or less. The apparatus operator will use a spotter to monitor activities in the area of the rear of the apparatus.
- 5.3.4 Smoking is prohibited at all times by all persons in all Fire District-owned vehicles.

- 5.3.5 Vehicle operators shall:
  - 5.3.5.1 Be aware of the size, weight, and overall clearance of the vehicle so it can be safety operated under overhangs, through narrow passages, and over rural bridges.
  - 5.3.5.2 Observe all traffic laws.
  - 5.3.5.3 Adjust the speed of the vehicle to compensate for railroad tracks, dips, gravel roads, etc.
- 5.3.6 Adverse weather and traffic conditions will necessitate adjustments in the speed of the vehicle.
- 5.3.7 Maximum speed on ninety (90) degree turns should be ten (10) miles per hour. Other cornering should be adjusted according to road surface and degree of curve to prevent sway.
- 5.3.8 Every attempt shall be made to ensure that acceleration and deceleration are steady and consistent. At no time shall the vehicle be "hot rodded" or abused in any manner.

### 5.4 Backing

- 5.4.1 If you can avoid backing, don't back!
- 5.4.2 Whenever possible use a road intersection, as opposed to a private driveway, to perform a backing maneuver.
- 5.4.3 Whenever a piece of fire apparatus is being operated in reverse, the following rules should be observed:
  - 5.4.3.1 Apparatus Operator Responsibilities:
  - 5.4.3.2 Prior to operating the vehicle in reverse, bring the unit to a complete stop.
  - 5.4.3.3 If no spotter available:
    - 5.4.3.3.1 Reconsider backing up.
    - 5.4.3.3.2 Make a reasonable attempt to get someone to act as a spotter.
    - 5.4.3.3.3 If a spotter cannot be obtained, get out of the unit and walk around the unit completely and survey the backing area. Before proceeding to back unit, be sure to check overhead clearance.
    - 5.4.3.3.4 Turn on emergency lights prior to placing the vehicle transmission in reverse.
    - 5.4.3.3.5 Never be in a hurry when backing back slowly.
    - 5.4.3.3.6 Do not start to back when unsure of area.
    - 5.4.3.3.7 Roll the window down completely.
  - 5.4.3.4 If a spotter is in place eight to ten feet at the left rear of the unit.
    - 5.4.3.4.1 Make visual and verbal contact with spotter.
    - 5.4.3.4.2 Driver and spotter must establish and continue eye contact in the driver's side rear view mirror.
    - 5.4.3.4.3 Be able to see spotter in driver's side rear view mirror. If you cannot see the spotter, STOP, do not back up!
    - 5.4.3.4.4 Operators must have a thorough knowledge of hand signals.
    - 5.4.3.4.5 The spotter hand signals the driver to back up.

5.4.3.4.6 Turn off emergency lights after maneuver is complete.

## 5.4.3.5 Spotter Responsibilities:

- 5.4.3.5.1 Survey the right side and rear area for obstacles that would damage the unit. Remember overhead clearance.
- 5.4.3.5.2 Place yourself eight to ten feet to the left rear of the unit.
- 5.4.3.5.3 Make sure the operator can see and hear you.
- 5.4.3.5.4 Have eye contact with operator at all times through the left side rear view mirror and direct the driver with approved hand signals.
- 5.4.3.5.5 Ensure that the vehicle's emergency lights are on. If they are not on, have the apparatus operator turn them on.
- 5.4.3.6 Standard hand signals used by the spotter (see appendix):
  - 5.4.3.6.1 begin or continue backing straight arms outstretched, overhead and straight
  - 5.4.3.6.2 begin or continue backing to the right right arm outstretched at 90 degree angle from body and left arm straight over the head
  - 5.4.3.6.3 begin or continue backing to the left left arm outstretched at 90 degree angle from body and right arm straight up and over the head
  - 5.4.3.6.4 stop backing arms overhead and crossed

#### 5.5 Pulling Into and Out of Apparatus Bays

- 5.5.1 The apparatus operator should complete a walk around of the apparatus prior to departing the station. The driver must ensure that all compartment doors are closed, equipment is secured and nothing is abnormally protruding from the apparatus. This requires a complete walk around the apparatus.
- 5.5.2 All apparatus operators should exercise extreme caution when pulling out of an apparatus bay or returning an apparatus to an apparatus bay.
- 5.5.3 Ensure that all pedestrian traffic (inside and outside the station) is aware of your intentions.
- 5.5.4 Leaving and returning to the apparatus bay should be made in a slow and deliberate manner.
- 5.5.5 Check the position of the overhead bay door and do not attempt to close the overhead door until the apparatus has pulled completely out of the apparatus bay.
  - 5.5.5.1 If the door were to inadvertently begin to close while the apparatus is under it...STOP the apparatus...allow the door to hit the apparatus. DO NOT try to outrun the door, the consequences can be structurally devastating to not only the door and the apparatus, but also to the structural members supporting the bay door.

5.5.5.2 Members shall not attempt to close ANY overhead door until all apparatus have been backed into the apparatus bay.

## 5.6 <u>Emergency Vehicle Operations</u>

- 5.6.1 The operation of Fire District vehicles when responding to an emergency assignment is different from that of routine driving. Special attention should be paid to the use of the emergency equipment, speed, defensive driving, weather conditions and safe parking of the vehicle at the scene. The Fire District has a high regard for the safety of not only the apparatus passengers, but also all other drivers on the road and the public at large. Fire District vehicles shall be operated in a safe and prudent manner at all times.
- 5.6.2 Vehicle operators of Boone County Fire District vehicles should adhere to principles of "low forces" driving rather than "high forces" or "pursuit type" driving. These principles are important at all times, especially during emergency response conditions. "Low forces" driving focuses on gradual deceleration and acceleration and anticipates responses so that abrupt stops or maneuvers can be avoided. "Low forces" driving provides a smoother and safer ride; decreases wear and tear on mechanical components of the vehicle, and helps prevent the driver from getting into situations which require the use of "high forces" techniques or evasive maneuvers. "Low forces" driving techniques allow time and distance for emergency warning devices to be effective and require drivers to envision an imaginary "safety cushion" of space between the apparatus and other vehicles.
- 5.6.3 Do not allow your current personal attitude affect your driving behavior. Anger and frustration can impair your judgement. Do not allow another driver's action affect your driving behavior. Remember, the driver that does not yield, usually does not see or hear you. Drive defensively.
- 5.6.4 Operators shall be familiar with Missouri Statutes which pertain to emergency vehicle operation. They are listed in Appendix A.
- 5.6.5 The vehicle will be driven with all emergency lights and sirens operating when responding to a scene under emergency conditions.
- 5.6.6 The operation of emergency warning lights and siren is only authorized while en route to a bona fide emergency assignment. Emergency warning lights may be used during backing maneuvers or as stationary warning lights.
- 5.6.7 Headlights of apparatus (i.e., engines, tankers, squads, grass trucks, etc.) should be on at all times when responding to all assignments.
- 5.6.8 When departing the station, the apparatus shall be brought to a complete stop at the end of the station driveway before proceeding out onto the roadway. Extreme caution shall be exercised when pulling out onto the roadway. Ensure that other vehicles yield the right of way. Do not assume that they see or hear you.
- 5.6.9 Drive the most direct route to and from the assignment, utilizing major arteries for access as often as possible.

- 5.6.10 Avoid the use of one-way streets unless that is the only route possible.
- 5.6.11 Use extreme caution when approaching blind turns and hills, especially when approaching vehicles that are traveling in the same direction. They may suddenly stop over the crest of the hill or around the bend of the turn.
- 5.6.12 The vehicles should be driven no more than ten (10) miles per hour over the posted speed limit on regular city streets, when emergency equipment is in use.
- 5.6.13 The vehicles shall be driven at a speed that is consistent with safe vehicular operation (so long as the vehicle does not endanger life or property) on regular city streets, when emergency equipment is in use.
- 5.6.14 The vehicle shall be driven at a speed that is consistent with safe vehicular operation (so long as the vehicle does not endanger life or property) on interstate and open highways, when emergency equipment is in use. This is usually no more than 75 miles per hour.
- 5.6.15 When operating a vehicle that is governed below the posted speed limit, emergency warning equipment shall be turned off. Emergency warning equipment shall remain off until the apparatus reaches a roadway with a speed limit at or below the governed speed, or the apparatus meets slowed traffic and must request the right-of-way to reach the incident.
- 5.6.16 Pass moving traffic only on the left.

#### 5.7 Intersections

- 5.7.1 Sirens as a general rule should be switched to the "yelp" position when approaching intersections. This increases the penetration of the siren to approaching or stopped vehicles at the intersection.
- 5.7.2 Extreme caution shall be exercised when entering the intersection. When proceeding through a stop sign or a red light at a controlled intersection, the apparatus shall be brought to a complete stop at the entrance to the intersection before proceeding through it. Vehicles shall stop at each successive lane as they cross the intersection, ensuring that each lane of traffic stops and yields the right of way. Caution shall also be exercised when entering controlled intersections against a green light also. Ensure that other vehicles yield the right of way. Do not assume that they see or hear you.
- 5.7.3 When approaching a school bus or mass transit bus that is loading or unloading, the apparatus shall be brought to a complete stop 50 feet from the vehicle before proceeding. Observe driver of the bus for possible direction. DO NOT PASS if the bus stop sign is out. Extreme caution shall be exercised when passing the bus. Passing speed will not exceed 10 mile per hour. Be extremely alert for pedestrians (especially children). Do not assume that they see or hear you.
- 5.7.4 When approaching an uncontrolled railroad crossing, the apparatus shall be brought to a complete stop at the entrance to the crossing (15-50 feet from the tracks) before proceeding through it. The apparatus operator shall check for the presence of an oncoming train by looking in both directions. Extreme caution shall be exercised when entering the crossing.

- Under no circumstances will fire apparatus proceed through a railroad crossing if a train is visually present unless the train is stationary, or near stationary, on the tracks, or is at such a distance that the apparatus operator is certain that it presents no risk.
- 5.7.5 When approaching a controlled railroad crossing that is indicating the presence of a train (lights and/or bells alerting), the apparatus shall be brought to a complete stop at the entrance to the crossing (15-50 feet from the tracks) before proceeding through it. The apparatus operator shall check for the presence of an oncoming train by looking in both directions. Under no circumstances will fire apparatus proceed around railroad crossing control gates or through railroad crossing control lights unless the train is stationary or near stationary on the tracks and it presents no risk.
- 5.7.6 Spotlights may be used for locating addresses or illuminating street signs. They shall not be used for lighting while driving or for clearing traffic.
- 5.7.7 If an apparatus or personal vehicle is positioned in such a way that it is difficult to see by oncoming traffic, then warning equipment or emergency flashers will be left in operation during the entire time on the scene.

  Otherwise, all warning equipment should be turned off.
- 5.7.8 Upon arrival at the scene, the engine should be idled up by engaging the auto throttle or setting the manual throttle control (if so equipped).

#### 5.8 Vehicle Placement

- 5.8.1 For incidents on roadways, see the Traffic Incident Management Policy for more specific vehicle placement directions
- 5.8.2 Apparatus placement at the scene of an incident is important to the overall operation of the incident. Vehicles poorly placed at the scene can cause a safety hazard and/or hamper scene operations. Vehicle placement at an incident should follow these guidelines:
- 5.8.3 General
- 5.8.4 All vehicles will be positioned in such a manner that is consistent with the guidelines for Level I Staging that is outlined in the Incident Command System Policy.
- 5.8.5 Park off the general road surface, if possible.
- 5.8.6 On EMS assignments, park for working convenience in relation to patient's location take into consideration the patient's proximity to the vehicle exhaust.
- 5.8.7 Apparatus, and/or personal vehicles with appropriate warning equipment, shall be positioned in such a manner as to provide the highest degree of protection and safety for personnel operating on the incident scene.
- 5.8.8 Every effort should be made to park the unit so that it will not be necessary to back up upon leaving the scene.
- 5.8.9 When leaving the unit parked at the incident scene, it should be left with all doors closed.
- 5.8.10 If an apparatus or personal vehicle is positioned in such a way that it is difficult to see by oncoming traffic, then warning equipment or emergency flashers will be left in operation during the entire time on the scene. Otherwise, all warning equipment should be turned off.

- 5.8.11 Headlights will be turned off after arriving on the scene if they present a hazard to oncoming motorists. An exception would be if the headlights provide or supplement incident scene lighting.
- 5.8.12 <u>Parking Private Vehicles</u> Residential Incidents (Medical Emergencies, Structure Fires, etc.)
- 5.8.13 If the residence is on a secondary road or if apparatus can approach from only one direction, pull past the incident.
- 5.8.14 All vehicles should park on the same side of the road if possible.
- 5.8.15 The roadway shall remain open for apparatus traffic !!! It may be necessary to pull into a ditch to maintain proper access.
- 5.8.16 Avoid parking in areas where the ground is soft (i.e., yards) or where exhaust could set ground cover on fire.

#### 6.0 APPLICABLE CODES AND STANDARDS

- 6.1 RSMO 300.075 Authority of police and fire department officials.
- 6.2 RSMO 300.080 Obedience to police and fire department officials.
- 6.3 RSMO 300.100 Authorized emergency vehicles--permitted acts of drivers.
- 6.4 RSMO 300.105 Operation of vehicles on approach of authorized emergency vehicles.
- 6.5 RSMO 300.300 Following fire apparatus prohibited.
- 6.6 RSMO 300.305 Crossing fire hose.
- 6.7 RSMO 304.022 Emergency vehicle defined--use of lights and sirens--right-of-way--stationary vehicles, procedure--penalty.
- 6.8 RSMO 307.175 Sirens and flashing lights emergency use, persons authorized-violation, penalty.

#### 7.0 APPENDICES

- 7.1 RSMO 300.075 Authority of police and fire department officials.
- 7.2 RSMO 300.080 Obedience to police and fire department officials.
- 7.3 RSMO 300.100 Authorized emergency vehicles--permitted acts of drivers.
- 7.4 RSMO 300.105 Operation of vehicles on approach of authorized emergency vehicles.
- 7.5 RSMO 300.300 Following fire apparatus prohibited.
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- 7.7 RSMO 304.022 Emergency vehicle defined--use of lights and sirens--right-of-way--stationary vehicles, procedure--penalty.
- 7.8 RSMO 307.175 Sirens and flashing lights emergency use, persons authorized-violation, penalty.

#### APPENDIX 7.1

## MISSOURI STATE STATUTES PERTAINING TO VEHICLE OPERATIONS (Updated October, 2013)

## 300.075. Authority of police and fire department officials.

- 1. It shall be the duty of the officers of the police department or such officers as are assigned by the chief of police to enforce all street traffic laws of the city and all of the state vehicle laws applicable to street traffic in the city.
- 2. Officers of the police department or such officers as are assigned by the chief of police are hereby authorized to direct all traffic by voice, hand, or signal in conformance with traffic laws; provided that, in the event of a fire or other emergency or to expedite traffic or to safeguard pedestrians, officers of the police department may direct traffic as conditions may require notwithstanding the provisions of the traffic laws.
- 3. Officers of the fire department, when at the scene of a fire, may direct or assist the police in directing traffic thereat or in the immediate vicinity.

## 300.080. Obedience to police and fire department officials.

1. No person shall willfully fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order or direction of a police officer or fire department official.

#### 300.100. Authorized emergency vehicles.

- 1. 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 privileges set forth in this section, but subject to the conditions herein stated.
- 2. The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle may:
  - (1) Park or stand, irrespective of the provisions of this ordinance;
  - (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 he does not endanger life or property;
  - (4) Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions.
- 3. The exemptions herein granted to an authorized emergency vehicle shall apply only when the driver of any said vehicle while in motion sounds audible signal by siren or while having at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a red light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of five hundred feet to the front of such vehicle or a flashing blue light authorized by section 307.175, RSMo.

4. The foregoing provisions 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 his reckless disregard for the safety of others.

## 300.105. Operation of vehicles on approach of authorized emergency vehicles.

- 1. Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle making use of audible and visual signals meeting the requirements of the laws of this state, or of a police vehicle properly and lawfully making use of an audible signal only 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;
- 2. This section shall not 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.

## 300.300. Following fire apparatus prohibited.

1. 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 feet or drive into or park such vehicle within the block where fire apparatus has stopped in answer to a fire alarm.

## 300.305. Crossing fire hose.

1. No vehicle shall be driven over any unprotected hose of a fire department when laid down on any street, private driveway or streetcar track, to be used at any fire or alarm of fire, without the consent of the fire department official in command.

## 304.022. Emergency vehicle defined--use of lights and sirens--right-of-way--stationary vehicles, procedure--penalty.

- 1. Upon the immediate approach of an emergency vehicle giving audible signal by siren or while having at least one lighted lamp exhibiting red light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of five hundred feet to the front of such vehicle or a flashing blue light authorized by section 307.175, RSMo, the driver of every other vehicle shall yield the right-of-way and shall immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as far as possible to the right of, the traveled portion of the highway and thereupon stop and remain in such position until such emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police or traffic officer.
- 2. Upon approaching a stationary emergency vehicle displaying lighted red or red and blue lights, the driver of every motor vehicle shall:

- (1) Proceed with caution and yield the right-of-way, if possible with due regard to safety and traffic conditions, by making a lane change into a lane not adjacent to that of the stationary vehicle, if on a roadway having at least four lanes with not less than two lanes proceeding in the same direction as the approaching vehicle; or
- (2) Proceed with due caution and reduce the speed of the vehicle, maintaining a safe speed for road conditions, if changing lanes would be unsafe or impossible.
- 3. The motorman of every streetcar shall immediately stop such car clear of any intersection and keep it in such position until the emergency vehicle has passed, except as otherwise directed by a police or traffic officer.
- 4. An "emergency vehicle" is a vehicle of any of the following types:
  - (1) A vehicle operated by the state highway patrol, the state water patrol, the Missouri capitol police, or a state park ranger, those vehicles operated by enforcement personnel of the state highways and transportation commission, police or fire department, sheriff, constable or deputy sheriff, federal law enforcement officer authorized to carry firearms and to make arrests for violations of the laws of the United States, traffic officer or coroner or by a privately owned emergency vehicle company;
  - (2) A vehicle operated as an ambulance or operated commercially for the purpose of transporting emergency medical supplies or organs;
  - (3) Any vehicle qualifying as an emergency vehicle pursuant to section 307.175, RSMo;
  - (4) Any wrecker, or tow truck or a vehicle owned and operated by a public utility or public service corporation while performing emergency service;
  - (5) Any vehicle transporting equipment designed to extricate human beings from the wreckage of a motor vehicle;
  - (6) Any vehicle designated to perform emergency functions for a civil defense or emergency management agency established pursuant to the provisions of chapter 44, RSMo;
  - (7) Any vehicle operated by an authorized employee of the department of corrections who, as part of the employee's official duties, is responding to a riot, disturbance, hostage incident, escape or other critical situation where there is the threat of serious physical injury or death, responding to mutual aid call from another criminal justice agency, or in accompanying an ambulance which is transporting an offender to a medical facility;
  - (8) Any vehicle designated to perform hazardous substance emergency functions established pursuant to the provisions of sections 260.500 to 260.550, RSMo.
- 5. (1) The driver of any vehicle referred to in subsection 4 of this section shall not sound the siren thereon or have the front red lights or blue lights on except when such vehicle is responding to an emergency call or when in pursuit of an actual or suspected law violator, or when responding to, but not upon returning from, a fire.
  - (2) The driver of an emergency vehicle may:
    - (a) Park or stand irrespective of the provisions of sections 304.014 to 304.026\*;

- (b) Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation;
- (c) Exceed the prima facie speed limit so long as the driver does not endanger life or property;
- (d) Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions.
- (3) The exemptions granted to an emergency vehicle pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection shall apply only when the driver of any such vehicle while in motion sounds audible signal by bell, siren, or exhaust whistle as may be reasonably necessary, and when the vehicle is equipped with at least one lighted lamp displaying a red light or blue light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of five hundred feet to the front of such vehicle.
- 6. No person shall purchase an emergency light as described in this section without furnishing the seller of such light an affidavit stating that the light will be used exclusively for emergency vehicle purposes.
- 7. Violation of this section shall be deemed a class B misdemeanor.

## 307.175. Sirens and flashing lights emergency use, persons authorized--violation, penalty.

1. Motor vehicles and equipment which are operated by any member of an organized fire department, ambulance association, or rescue squad, whether paid or volunteer, may be operated on streets and highways in this state as an emergency vehicle under the provisions of section 304.022, RSMo, while responding to a fire call or ambulance call or at the scene of a fire call or ambulance call and while using or sounding a warning siren and using or displaying thereon fixed, flashing or rotating blue lights, but sirens and blue lights shall be used only in bona fide emergencies. Permits for the operation of such vehicles equipped with sirens or blue lights shall be in writing and shall be issued and may be revoked by the chief of an organized fire department, organized ambulance association, or rescue squad and no person shall use or display a siren or blue lights on a motor vehicle, fire, ambulance, or rescue equipment without a valid permit authorizing the use. A\*\* permit to use a siren or lights as heretofore set out does not relieve the operator of the vehicle so equipped with complying with all other traffic laws and regulations. Violation of this section constitutes a class A misdemeanor.