

CHAPTER 4

STOPPING AND YIELDING

SECTION

- 9-401. Upon approach of authorized emergency vehicles.
- 9-402. When emerging from alleys, driveways or buildings.
- 9-403. To prevent obstructing an intersection.
- 9-404. At railroad crossings.
- 9-405. At "stop" signs.
- 9-406. At "yield" signs.
- 9-407. At traffic-control signals generally.
- 9-408. At flashing traffic-control signals.
- 9-409. At pedestrian-control signals.
- 9-410. Stops to be signaled.

9-401. Upon approach of authorized emergency vehicles. Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle making use of audible and/or 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 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.

9-402. When emerging from alleys, driveways or buildings. The drivers of all vehicles emerging from alleys, driveways or buildings shall stop such vehicles immediately prior to driving onto any sidewalk or street. They shall not proceed to drive onto the sidewalk or street until they can safely do so without colliding or interfering with approaching pedestrians or vehicles.

9-403. To prevent obstructing an intersection. No driver shall enter any intersection or marked cross walk unless there is sufficient space on the other side of such intersection or cross walk to accommodate the vehicle he is operating without obstructing the passage of traffic in or on the intersecting street or cross walk. This provision shall be effective notwithstanding any traffic-control signal indication to proceed.

9-404. At railroad crossings. Any driver of a vehicle approaching a railroad grade crossing shall stop within not less than fifteen (15) feet from the nearest rail of such railroad and shall not proceed further while any of the following conditions exist:

- (1) A clearly visible electrical or mechanical signal device gives warning of the approach of a railroad train.
- (2) A crossing gate is lowered or human flagman signals the approach of a railroad train.
- (3) A railroad train is approaching within approximately fifteen hundred (1,500) feet of the highway crossing and is emitting an audible signal indicating its approach.
- (4) An approaching railroad train is plainly visible and is in hazardous proximity to the crossing.

9-405. At "stop" signs. The driver of a vehicle facing a "stop" sign shall bring his vehicle to a complete stop immediately before entering the cross walk on the near side of the intersection, or if there is no cross walk, then immediately before entering the intersection and shall remain standing until he can proceed through the intersection in safety.

9-406. At “yield” signs. The drivers of all vehicles shall yield the right-of-way to approaching vehicles before proceeding at all places within the corporate limits where “yield” signs have been placed by the municipality.

9-407. At traffic-control signals generally. Traffic-control signals exhibiting the words “GO”, “Caution”, or “Stop”, or exhibiting different colored lights successively one at a time, or with arrows, shall show the following colors only and shall apply to drivers of vehicles and pedestrians as follows:

(1) Green alone, or “GO”.

(a) Vehicular traffic facing the signal may proceed straight through or turn right or left unless a sign at such place prohibits such turn. But vehicular traffic, including vehicles turning right or left, shall yield the right-of-way to other vehicles and to pedestrians lawfully within the intersection or an adjacent cross walk at the time such signal is exhibited.

(b) Pedestrians facing the signal may proceed across the roadway within any marked or unmarked cross walk.

(2) Steady yellow alone:

(a) Vehicular traffic facing the signal is thereby warned that the red or “Stop” signal will be exhibited immediately thereafter and such vehicular traffic shall not enter or be crossing the intersection when the red or “Stop” signal is exhibited.

(b) Pedestrians facing such signal shall not enter the roadway unless authorized so to do by a pedestrian “Walk” signal.

(3) Steady red alone, or “Stop”.

(a) Vehicular traffic facing the signal shall stop before entering cross walk on the near side of the intersection or, if none, then before entering the intersection and shall remain standing until green or “GO” is shown alone.

(b) Pedestrians facing such signal shall not enter the roadway unless authorized so to do by a pedestrian “Walk” signal.

(4) Steady red with green arrow:

(a) Vehicular traffic facing such signal may cautiously enter the intersection only to make the movement indicated by such arrow but shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within a cross walk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

(b) Pedestrians facing such signal shall not enter the roadway unless authorized so to do by a pedestrian “Walk” signal.

(5) In the event an official traffic control signal is erected and maintained at a

place other than an intersection, the provisions of this section shall be applicable except as to those provisions which by their nature can have no application. Any stop required shall be made at a sign or marking the stop shall be made a vehicle length short of the signal.

9-408. At flashing traffic-control signals. (1) Whenever an illuminated flashing red or yellow signal is used in a traffic sign or signal placed or erected by the municipality it shall require obedience by vehicular traffic as follows:

(a) Flashing red (stop signal). When a red lens is illuminated with intermittent flashes, driver of vehicles shall stop before entering the nearest cross walk at an intersection or at a limit line when marked, or if none, then before entering the intersection and the right to proceed shall be subject to the rules applicable after making a stop at a stop sign.

(b) Flashing yellow (caution signal). When a yellow lens is illuminated with intermittent flashes, drivers of vehicles may proceed through the intersection or past such signal only with caution.

(2) This section shall not apply at railroad grade crossings. Conduct of drivers of vehicles approaching railroad grade crossings shall be governed by the rules set forth in Section 9-404 of this Title.

9-409. At pedestrian control signals. Wherever special pedestrian control signals exhibiting the words "Walk" or "Wait" or "Don't Walk" have been placed or erected by the municipality, such signals shall apply as follows:

(1) Walk. Pedestrians facing such signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles.

(2) Wait or Don't Walk. No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his crossing on the walk signal shall proceed to the nearest sidewalk or safety zone while the wait signal is showing.

9-410. Stops to be signaled. No person operating a motor vehicle shall stop such vehicle whether in obedience to a traffic signal or otherwise, without first signaling his intention in accordance with the requirements of the state law, except in an emergency (See Section 59-843, Tennessee Code Annotated).