

TITLE 15

MOTOR VEHICLES, TRAFFIC AND PARKING¹

CHAPTER

1. MISCELLANEOUS.
2. SPEED LIMITS.
3. ENFORCEMENT.

CHAPTER 1

MISCELLANEOUS²

SECTION

- 15-101. Illegal passing and weaving.
- 15-102. Disregarding stop sign.
- 15-103. Following too closely.
- 15-104. Vehicles and operators to be licensed.
- 15-105. Vehicles likely to damage streets.
- 15-106. Compliance with financial responsibility law required.
- 15-107. Adoption of state traffic statutes.

15-101. Illegal passing and weaving. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this section to pass in no-passing zones or to weave in and out of traffic in an unsafe manner. (2000 Code, § 15-102)

15-102. Disregarding stop sign. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this section to fail to come to a full and complete stop at a stop sign. (2000 Code, § 15-103)

¹Municipal code reference

Excavations and obstructions in streets, etc.: title 16.

²State law references

Under *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 55-10-307, the following offenses are exclusively state offenses and must be tried in a state court or a court having state jurisdiction: driving while intoxicated or drugged, as prohibited by *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 55-10-401; failing to stop after a traffic accident, as prohibited by *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 55-10-101, et seq.; driving while license is suspended or revoked, as prohibited by *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 55-7-116; and drag racing, as prohibited by *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 55-10-501.

15-103. Following too closely. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this section to follow a vehicle too closely. (2000 Code, § 15-104)

15-104. Vehicles and operators to be licensed. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motor vehicle in violation of the "Tennessee Motor Vehicle Title and Registration Law" or the "Uniform Classified and Commercial Driver License Act of 1988."

15-105. Vehicles likely to damage streets. (1) No person shall operate upon any street of the municipality any vehicle, motor propelled or otherwise, which by reason of its weight, the weight of its load, or the type of its wheels or tracks, is likely to damage the surface or foundation of the street or is likely to damage a bridge.

(2) Any person in violation of this section shall be deemed guilty of a civil offense and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than five dollars (\$5.00) nor more than fifty dollars (\$50.00).

15-106. Compliance with financial responsibility law required.

(1) This section shall apply to every vehicle subject to the state registration and certificate of title provisions.

(2) At the time the driver of a motor vehicle is charged with any moving violation under *Tennessee Code Annotated*, title 55, chapters 8 and 10, parts 1-5, chapter 50; any provision in this title of this municipal code; or at the time of an accident for which notice is required under *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 55-10-106, the officer shall request evidence of financial responsibility as required by this section. In case of an accident for which notice is required under *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 55-10-106, the officer shall request such evidence from all drivers involved in the accident, without regard to apparent or actual fault. For the purposes of this section, "financial responsibility" means:

(a) Documentation, such as the declaration page of an insurance policy, an insurance binder, or an insurance card from an insurance company authorized to do business in Tennessee, stating that a policy of insurance meeting the requirements of the Tennessee Financial Responsibility Law of 1977, compiled in *Tennessee Code Annotated*, chapter 12, title 55, has been issued;

(b) A certificate, valid for one (1) year, issued by the commissioner of safety, stating that a cash deposit or bond in the amount required by the Tennessee Financial Responsibility Law of 1977, compiled in *Tennessee Code Annotated*, chapter 12, title 55, has been paid or filed with the commissioner, or has qualified as a self-insurer under *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 55-12-111; or

(c) The motor vehicle being operated at the time of the violation was owned by a carrier subject to the jurisdiction of the department of

safety or was owned by the United States, the State of Tennessee or any political subdivision thereof, and that such motor vehicle was being operated with the owner's consent.

(3) It is a civil offense to fail to provide evidence of financial responsibility pursuant to this section. Any violation is punishable by a civil penalty of up to fifty dollars (\$50.00).

(4) The penalty imposed by this section shall be in addition to any other penalty imposed by the laws of this state or this municipal code.

(5) On or before the court date, the person so charged may submit physical evidence of financial responsibility at the time of the violation. If it is the person's first violation of this section and the court is satisfied that such financial responsibility, or electronic evidence pursuant to *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 55-12-139, was in effect at the time of the violation, the charge of failure to provide evidence of financial responsibility shall be dismissed. Upon the person's second or subsequent violation of this section, if the court is satisfied that such financial responsibility was in effect at the time of the violation, the charge of failure to provide evidence of financial responsibility may be dismissed. Any charge which is dismissed pursuant to this subsection shall be dismissed without costs to the defendant and no litigation tax shall be due or collected.

15-107. Adoption of state traffic statutes. By the authority granted under *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 16-18-3 02, the Town of Pittman Center adopts by reference as if fully set forth in this section, the "Rules of the Road," as codified in *Tennessee Code Annotated*, §§ 55-8-101 through 55-8-131 and §§ 55-8-133 through 55-8-180. Additionally, the Town of Pittman Center adopts *Tennessee Code Annotated*, §§ 55-4-101 through 55-4-128, §§ 55-4-130 through 55-4-133, §§ 55-4-135 through 55-4-138, §§ 55-8-181 through 55-8-191, § 55-8-193, § 55-8-199, §§ 55-9-401 through 55-9-408, §§ 55-9-601 through 55-9-606, § 55-12-139, and § 55-50-351, by reference as if fully set forth in this section. (Ord. #294, Feb. 2020)

CHAPTER 2

SPEED LIMITS

SECTION

15-201. In general.

15-202. In school zones.

15-203. Violations and penalty.

15-201. In general. The established speed limit for all roads, except Pittman Center Road and U.S. Highway 321, shall be twenty (20) miles per hour except where official signs have been posted indicating other speed limits in which cases the posted speed limits shall apply. (2000 Code, § 15-201, modified)

15-202. In school zones. Pursuant to *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 55-8-152, the town shall have the authority to enact special speed limits in school zones. Such special speed limits shall be enacted based on an engineering investigation; shall not be less than fifteen (15) miles per hour; and shall be in effect only when proper signs are posted with a warning flasher or flashers in operation. It shall be unlawful for any person to violate any such special speed limit enacted and in effect in accordance with this paragraph.

In school zones where the board of mayor and aldermen has not established special speed limits as provided for above, any person who shall drive at a speed exceeding twenty (20) miles per hour when passing a school during a recess period when a warning flasher or flashers are in operation, or during a period of ninety (90) minutes before the opening hour of a school, or a period of ninety (90) minutes after the closing hour of a school, while children are actually going to or leaving school, shall be prima facie guilty of reckless driving. (modified)

15-203. Violations and penalty. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this section to travel in excess of the established speed limits. (2000 Code, § 15-202, modified)

CHAPTER 3**ENFORCEMENT****SECTION**

15-301. Abandoned vehicles.

15-302. Violation and penalty.

15-301. Abandoned vehicles. Members of the police department are hereby authorized, when reasonably necessary, to prevent obstruction of traffic, to remove from the streets and impound any vehicle whose operator is arrested, or any vehicle which is illegally parked, abandoned, or otherwise parked so as to constitute an obstruction of traffic. Any vehicle left parked on any street for more than seventy-two (72) consecutive hours without permission from the chief of police shall be presumed to be abandoned if the owner cannot be located after a reasonable investigation. The cost of any towing or impoundment shall be that of the vehicle's owner. (2000 Code, § 15-301)

15-302. Violation and penalty. Any violation of this title shall be a civil offense punishable by a civil penalty of up to fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each separate offense. (2000 Code, § 15-302)