

TITLE 15

MOTOR VEHICLES, TRAFFIC AND PARKING¹

CHAPTER

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CHAPTER 1

MISCELLANEOUS²

SECTION

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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.

- 15-114. Clinging to vehicles in motion.
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- 15-119. Passing.
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- 15-121. Bicycle riders, etc.
- 15-122. Compliance with financial responsibility law required.
- 15-123. Adoption of state traffic statutes.

15-101. Motor vehicle requirements. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any motor vehicle within the corporate limits unless such vehicle is equipped with properly operating muffler, lights, brakes, horn, and such other equipment as is prescribed and required by *Tennessee Code Annotated*, title 55, chapter 9. (1995 Code, § 15-101)

15-102. Driving on streets closed for repairs, etc. Except for necessary access to property abutting thereon, no motor vehicle shall be driven upon any street that is barricaded or closed for repairs or other lawful purpose. (1995 Code, § 15-102)

15-103. Reckless driving. Irrespective of the posted speed limit, no person, including operators of emergency vehicles, shall drive any vehicle in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property. (1995 Code, § 15-103)

15-104. One-way streets. On any street for one-way traffic with posted signs indicating the authorized direction of travel at all intersections offering access thereto, no person shall operate any vehicle except in the indicated direction. (1995 Code, § 15-104)

15-105. Unlaned streets. (1) Upon all unlaned streets of sufficient width, a vehicle shall be driven upon the right half of the street except:

- (a) When lawfully overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction.
- (b) When the right half of a roadway is closed to traffic while under construction or repair.
- (c) Upon a roadway designated and signposted by the town for one-way traffic.

(2) All vehicles proceeding at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall be driven as close as practicable to the right hand curb or edge of the roadway, except when overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction or when preparing for a left turn. (1995 Code, § 15-105)

15-106. Laned streets. On streets marked with traffic lanes, it shall be unlawful for the operator of any vehicle to fail or refuse to keep his vehicle within the boundaries of the proper lane for his direction of travel except when lawfully passing another vehicle or preparatory to making a lawful turning movement.

On two (2) lane and three (3) lane streets, the proper lane for travel shall be the right hand lane unless otherwise clearly marked. On streets with four (4) or more lanes, either of the right hand lanes shall be available for use except that traffic moving at less than the normal rate of speed shall use the extreme right hand lane. On one-way streets either lane may be lawfully used in the absence of markings to the contrary. (1995 Code, § 15-106)

15-107. Yellow lines. On streets with a yellow line placed to the right of any lane line or center line, such yellow line shall designate a no-passing zone, and no operator shall drive his vehicle or any part thereof across or to the left of such yellow line except when necessary to make a lawful left turn from such street. (1995 Code, § 15-107)

15-108. Miscellaneous traffic-control signs, etc.¹ It shall be unlawful for any pedestrian or the operator of any vehicle to violate or fail to comply with any traffic control sign, signal, marking, or device placed or erected by the state or the city/town unless otherwise directed by a police officer.

No person shall willfully fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order of any police officer invested by law with the authority to direct, control or regulate traffic.

15-109. General requirements for traffic-control signs, etc. Pursuant to *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 54-5-108, all traffic control signs, signals, markings, and devices shall conform to the latest revision of the *Tennessee Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways*,² and shall be uniform as to type and location throughout the town.

¹Municipal code references

Stop signs, yield signs, flashing signals, pedestrian control signs, traffic control signals generally: §§ 15-505--15-509

¹For the latest revision of the *Tennessee Manual on Uniform Traffic* (continued...)

15-110. Unauthorized traffic-control signs, etc. No person shall place, maintain, or display upon or in view of any street, any unauthorized sign, signal, marking, or device which purports to be or is an imitation of or resembles an official traffic-control sign, signal, marking, or device or railroad sign or signal, or which attempts to control the movement of traffic or parking of vehicles, or which hides from view or interferes with the effectiveness of any official traffic-control sign, signal, marking, or device. (1995 Code, § 15-110)

15-111. Presumption with respect to traffic-control signs, etc. When a traffic-control sign, signal, marking, or device has been placed, the presumption shall be that it is official and that it has been lawfully placed by the proper authority. (1995 Code, § 15-111)

15-112. School safety patrols. All motorists and pedestrians shall obey the directions or signals of school safety patrols when such patrols are assigned under the authority of the chief of police and are acting in accordance with instructions; provided, that such persons giving any order, signal, or direction shall at the time be wearing some insignia and/or using authorized flags for giving signals. (1995 Code, § 15-112)

15-113. Driving through funerals or other processions. Except when otherwise directed by a police officer, no driver of a vehicle shall drive between the vehicles comprising a funeral or other authorized procession while they are in motion and when such vehicles are conspicuously designated. (1995 Code, § 15-113)

15-114. Clinging to vehicles in motion. It shall be unlawful for any person traveling upon any bicycle, motorcycle, coaster, sled, roller skates, or any other vehicle to cling to, or attach himself or his vehicle to any other moving vehicle upon any street, alley, or other public way or place. (1995 Code, § 15-114)

15-115. Riding on outside of vehicles. It shall be unlawful for any person to ride, or for the owner or operator of any motor vehicle being operated on a street, alley, or other public way or place, to permit any person to ride on any portion of such vehicle not designed or intended for the use of passengers. This section shall not apply to persons engaged in the necessary discharge of lawful duties nor to persons riding in the load-carrying space of trucks. (1995 Code, § 15-115)

(...continued)

Control Devices for Streets and Highways, see the Official Compilation of the Rules and Regulations of the State of Tennessee, § 1680-3-1, *et seq.*

15-116. Backing vehicles. The driver of a vehicle shall not back the same unless such movement can be made with reasonable safety and without interfering with other traffic. (1995 Code, § 15-116)

15-117. Projections from the rear of vehicles. Whenever the load or any projecting portion of any vehicle shall extend beyond the rear of the bed or body thereof, the operator shall display at the end of such load or projection, in such position as to be clearly visible from the rear of such vehicle, a red flag being not less than twelve inches (12") square. Between one-half (1/2) hour after sunset and one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise, there shall be displayed in place of the flag a red light plainly visible under normal atmospheric conditions at least two hundred feet (200') from the rear of such vehicle. (1995 Code, § 15-117)

15-118. 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" *Tennessee Code Annotated*, title 55, chapter 1, or the "Uniform Classified and Commercial Driver License Act of 1988" *Tennessee Code Annotated*, title 55, chapter 50. (modified)

15-119. Passing. Except when overtaking and passing on the right is permitted, the driver of a vehicle passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction shall pass to the left thereof at a safe distance and shall not again drive to the right side of the street until safely clear of the overtaken vehicle. The driver of the overtaken vehicle shall give way to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle on audible signal and shall not increase the speed of his vehicle until completely passed by the overtaking vehicle.

When the street is wide enough, the driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass upon the right of another vehicle which is making or about to make a left turn.

The driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass another vehicle proceeding in the same direction either upon the left or upon the right on a street of sufficient width for four (4) or more lanes of moving traffic when such movement can be made in safety.

No person shall drive off the pavement or upon the shoulder of the street in overtaking or passing on the right.

When any vehicle has stopped at a marked crosswalk or at an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the street, no operator of any other vehicle approaching from the rear shall overtake and pass such stopped vehicle.

No vehicle operator shall attempt to pass another vehicle proceeding in the same direction unless he can see that the way ahead is sufficiently clear and unobstructed to enable him to make the movement in safety. (1995 Code, § 15-120)

15-120. Damaging pavements. No person shall operate upon any street of the town any vehicle, motor propelled or otherwise, which by reason of its weight or the character of its wheels or track is likely to damage the surface or foundation of the street. (1995 Code, § 15-121)

15-121. Bicycle riders, etc. Every person riding or operating a bicycle, motorcycle, or motor driven cycle shall be subject to the provisions of all traffic ordinances, rules, and regulations of the town applicable to the driver or operator of other vehicles except as to those provisions which by their nature can have no application to bicycles, motorcycles, or motor driven cycles.

No person operating or riding a bicycle, motorcycle, or motor driven cycle shall ride other than upon or astride the permanent and regular seat attached thereto, nor shall the operator carry any other person upon such vehicle other than upon a firmly attached and regular seat thereon.

No bicycle, motorcycle, or motor driven cycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.

No person operating a bicycle, motorcycle, or motor driven cycle shall carry any package, bundle, or article which prevents the rider from keeping both hands upon the handlebar.

No person under the age of sixteen (16) years shall operate any motorcycle, motorbike, or motor driven cycle while any other person is a passenger upon said motor vehicle.

All motorcycles and motor driven cycles operated on public ways within the corporate limits shall be equipped with crash bars approved by the state's commissioner of safety.

Each driver of a motorcycle or motor driven cycle and any passenger thereon shall be required to wear on his head a crash helmet of a type approved by the state's commissioner of safety.

Every motorcycle or motor driven cycle operated upon any public way within the corporate limits shall be equipped with a windshield of a type approved by the state's commissioner of safety, or, in the alternative, the operator and any passenger on any such motorcycle or motor driven cycle shall be required to wear safety goggles of a type approved by the state's commissioner of safety for the purpose of preventing any flying object from striking the operator or any passenger in the eyes.

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or ride on any vehicle in violation of this section and it shall also be unlawful for any parent or guardian knowingly to permit any minor to operate a motorcycle or motor driven cycle in violation of this section. (1995 Code, § 15-122)

15-122. 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 the interstate commerce commission, 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 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 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.

15-123. Adoption of state traffic statutes. By the authority granted under *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 16-18-302, the city/town 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 to 55-8-131, and §§ 55-8-133 to 55-8-180. Additionally, the city/town adopts *Tennessee Code Annotated*, §§ 55-8-181 to 55-8-193, §§ 55-9-601 to 55-9-606, § 55-12-139, § 55-21-108, and § 55-8-199 by reference as if fully set forth in this section.

CHAPTER 2

EMERGENCY VEHICLES

SECTION

15-201. Authorized emergency vehicles defined.

15-202. Operation of authorized emergency vehicles.

15-203. Following emergency vehicles.

15-204. Running over fire hoses, etc.

15-201. Authorized emergency vehicles defined. Authorized emergency vehicles shall be fire department vehicles, police vehicles, and such ambulances and other emergency vehicles as are designated by the chief of police. (1995 Code, § 15-201)

15-202. Operation of authorized emergency vehicles.¹ (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, subject to the conditions herein stated.

(2) The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle may park or stand, irrespective of the provisions of this title; proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down to ascertain that the intersection is clear; exceed the maximum speed limit and disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions so long as he does not endanger life or property.

(3) The exemptions herein granted for an authorized emergency vehicle shall apply only when the driver of any such vehicle while in motion sounds an audible signal by bell, siren, or exhaust whistle and when the vehicle is equipped with at least one (1) lighted lamp displaying a red light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of five hundred feet (500') to the front of such vehicle, except that an authorized emergency vehicle operated as a police vehicle need not be equipped with or display a red light visible from in front of the vehicle.

(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. (1995 Code, § 15-202)

¹Municipal code reference

Operation of other vehicle upon the approach of emergency vehicles:
§ 15-501.

15-203. Following emergency vehicles. No driver of any vehicle shall follow any authorized emergency vehicle apparently travelling in response to an emergency call closer than five hundred feet (500') or drive or park such vehicle within the block where fire apparatus has stopped in answer to a fire alarm. (1995 Code, § 15-203)

15-204. Running over fire hoses, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to drive over any hose lines or other equipment of the fire department except in obedience to the direction of a fireman or police officer. (1995 Code, § 15-204)

CHAPTER 3

SPEED LIMITS

SECTION

- 15-301. In general.
- 15-302. At intersections.
- 15-303. In school zones.
- 15-304. In congested areas.

15-301. In general. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a motor vehicle upon any highway or street at a rate of speed in excess of thirty (30) miles per hour except where official signs have been posted indicating other speed limits, in which cases the posted speed limit shall apply. (1995 Code, § 15-301)

15-302. At intersections. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a motor vehicle through any intersection at a rate of speed in excess of fifteen (15) miles per hour unless such person is driving on a street regulated by traffic-control signals or signs which require traffic to stop or yield on the intersecting streets. (1995 Code, § 15-302)

15-303. In school zones. Generally, pursuant to *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 55-8-152, special speed limits in school zones 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 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.

When 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 fifteen (15) 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. (1995 Code, § 15-303, modified)

15-304. In congested areas. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a motor vehicle through any congested area at a rate of speed in excess of any posted speed limit when such speed limit has been posted by proper authority. (1995 Code, § 15-304)

CHAPTER 4

TURNING MOVEMENTS

SECTION

- 15-401. Generally.
- 15-402. Right turns.
- 15-403. Left turns on two-way roadways.
- 15-404. Left turns on other than two-way roadways.
- 15-405. U-turns.
- 15-406. Turning on curve or crest of grade prohibited--penalty.
- 15-407. Signals for turns.
- 15-408. Signals by hand and arm or signal device.

15-401. Generally. No person operating a motor vehicle shall make any turning movement which might affect any pedestrian or the operation of any other vehicle without first ascertaining that such movement can be made in safety and signaling his intention in accordance with the requirements of the state law.¹ (1995 Code, § 15-401)

15-402. Right turns. Both the approach for a right turn and a right turn shall be made as close as practicable to the right hand curb or edge of the roadway. (1995 Code, § 15-402)

15-403. Left turns on two-way roadways. At any intersection where traffic is permitted to move in both directions on each roadway entering the intersection, an approach for a left turn shall be made in that portion of the right half of the roadway nearest the center line thereof and by passing to the right of the intersection of the center line of the two roadways. (1995 Code, § 15-403)

15-404. Left turns on other than two-way roadways. At any intersection where traffic is restricted to one direction on one or more of the roadways, the driver of a vehicle intending to turn left at any such intersection shall approach the intersection in the extreme left hand lane lawfully available to traffic moving in the direction of travel of such vehicle and after entering the intersection the left turn shall be made so as to leave the intersection, as nearly as practicable, in the left hand lane lawfully available to traffic moving in such direction upon the roadway being entered. (1995 Code, § 15-404)

¹State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-8-143.

15-405. U-turns. U-turns are prohibited. (1995 Code, § 15-405)

15-406. Turning on curve or crest of grade prohibited-penalty. No vehicle shall be turned so as to proceed in the opposite direction upon any curve, or upon the approach to or near the crest of a grade, where such vehicle cannot be seen by the driver of any other vehicle approaching from either direction within five hundred feet (500'). (1995 Code, § 15-406)

15-407. Signals for turns. (1) Every driver who intends to start, stop or turn, or partly turn from a direct line, shall first see that such movement can be made in safety, and whenever the operation of any other vehicle may be affected by such movement, shall give a signal required in this section, plainly visible to the driver of such other vehicle of the intention to make such movement.

(2) The signal herein required shall be given by means of the hand and arm, or by some mechanical or electrical device approved by the department of safety, in the manner herein specified. Whenever the signal is given by means of the hand and arm, the driver shall indicate the intention to start, stop, or turn, or partly turn, by extending the hand and arm from and beyond the left side of the vehicle, in the following manner:

(a) For left turn, or to pull to the left, the arm shall be extended in a horizontal position straight from and level with the shoulder;

(b) For right turn, or pull to the right, the arm shall be extended upward; and

(c) For slowing down or to stop, the arm shall be extended downward.

(3) Such signals shall be given continuously for a distance of at least fifty feet (50') before stopping, turning, partly turning, or materially altering the course of the vehicle.

(4) Drivers having once given a hand, electrical or mechanical device signal, must continue the course thus indicated, unless they alter the original signal and take care that drivers of vehicles and pedestrians have seen and are aware of the change.

(5) Drivers receiving a signal from another driver shall keep their vehicles under complete control and shall be able to avoid an accident resulting from a misunderstanding of such signal.

(6) Drivers of vehicles, standing or stopped at the curb or edge before moving such vehicles, shall give signals of their intention to move into traffic, as hereinbefore provided, before turning in the direction the vehicle shall proceed from the curb. (1995 Code, § 15-407)

15-408. Signals by hand and arm or signal device. (1) Any stop or turn signal required by this chapter shall be given either by means of the hand and arm or by a signal lamp or lamps or mechanical signal device approved by

the department of safety as provided in *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 55-8-143, except as otherwise provided in subsection (2).

(2) Any motor vehicle in use on a highway shall be equipped with, and required signal shall be given by, a signal lamp or lamps or mechanical signal device approved by the department when the distance from the center of the top of the steering post to the left outside limit of the body, cab or load of such motor vehicle exceeds twenty-four inches (24"), or when the distance from the center of the top of the steering post to the rear limit of the body or load thereof exceeds fourteen feet (14'). The latter measurement shall apply to any single vehicle, also to any combination of vehicles. (1995 Code, § 15-408)

CHAPTER 5

STOPPING AND YIELDING**SECTION**

- 15-501. When emerging from alleys, etc.
15-502. To prevent obstructing an intersection.
15-503. At "stop" signs.
15-504. At "yield" signs.
15-505. At traffic-control signals generally.
15-506. At flashing traffic-control signals.
15-507. Stops to be signaled.
15-508. Overtaking and passing school or church bus--markings--discharging passengers--penalties.

15-501. When emerging from alleys, etc. The drivers of all vehicles emerging from alleys, parking lots, 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. (1995 Code, § 15-502)

15-502. To prevent obstructing an intersection. No driver shall enter any intersection or marked crosswalk unless there is sufficient space on the other side of such intersection or crosswalk to accommodate the vehicle he is operating without obstructing the passage of traffic in or on the intersecting street or crosswalk. This provision shall be effective notwithstanding any traffic-control signal indication to proceed. (1995 Code, § 15-503)

15-503. At "stop" signs. The driver of a vehicle facing a "stop" sign shall bring his vehicle to a complete stop immediately before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if there is no crosswalk, then immediately before entering the intersection, and shall remain standing until he can proceed through the intersection in safety. (1995 Code, § 15-504)

15-504. At "yield" signs. The drivers of all vehicles shall yield the right-of-way to approaching vehicles before proceeding at all places where "yield" signs have been posted. (1995 Code, § 15-505)

15-505. At traffic-control signals generally. Traffic-control signals exhibiting the words "Go," "Caution," or "Stop," or exhibiting different colored lights successively one (1) 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 crosswalk at the time such signal is exhibited.

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

(2) Steady yellow alone, or "Caution":

(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.

(3) Steady red alone, or "Stop":

(a) Vehicular traffic facing the signal shall stop before entering the crosswalk 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. Provided, however, that a right turn on a red signal shall be permitted at all intersections within the town, provided that the prospective turning car comes to a full and complete stop before turning and that the turning car yields the right-of-way to pedestrians and cross traffic traveling in accordance with their traffic signal. However, said turn will not endanger other traffic lawfully using said intersection. A right turn on red shall be permitted at all intersections except those clearly marked by a "No Turns On Red" sign, which may be erected by the town at intersections which the town decides require no right turns on red in the interest of traffic safety.

(b) Pedestrians facing such signal shall not enter the roadway.

(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 crosswalk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

(b) Pedestrians facing such signal shall not enter the roadway.

(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 on the pavement indicating where the stop shall be made, but in the absence of any such sign or marking the stop shall be made a vehicle length short of the signal. (1995 Code, § 15-506)

15-506. At flashing traffic-control signals. Whenever an illuminated flashing red or yellow signal is used in a traffic sign or signal placed or erected in the town it shall require obedience by vehicular traffic as follows:

(1) **Flashing red (stop signal).** When a red lens is illuminated with intermittent flashes, drivers of vehicles shall stop before entering the nearest crosswalk at an intersection or at a limit line when marked, or if there is no crosswalk or limit line, 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.

(2) **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. (1995 Code, § 15-507)

15-507. Stops to be signaled. No person operating a motor vehicle shall stop such vehicle, whether in obedience to a traffic sign or signal or otherwise, without first signaling his intention in accordance with the requirements of the state law,¹ except in an emergency. (1995 Code, § 15-508)

15-508. Overtaking and passing school or church bus -- markings--discharging passengers -- penalties. (1) (a) All motor vehicles used in transporting school children to and from school in this state are required to be distinctly marked "School Bus" on the front and rear thereof in letters of not less than six inches (6") in height, and so plainly written or printed and so arranged as to be legible to persons approaching such school bus, whether traveling in the same or opposite direction.

(b) (i) The driver of a vehicle upon a highway with separate roadways need not stop upon meeting or passing a school bus which is on a different roadway or when upon a controlled-access highway and the school bus is stopped in a loading zone which is a part of or adjacent to such highway and where pedestrians are not permitted to cross the roadway.

(ii) For the purpose of subsection (i), "separate roadways" means roadways divided by an intervening space which is not suitable to vehicular traffic.

(c) Except as otherwise provided by the preceding subsections, the school bus driver is required to stop such school bus on the right-hand side of such road or highway, and the driver shall cause the bus to remain stationary and the visual stop signs on the bus actuated, until all school children who should be discharged from the bus have been so discharged

¹State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-8-143.

and until all children whose destination causes them to cross the road or highway at that place have negotiated such crossing.

(d) Any person failing to comply with the requirements of this subsection, requiring motor vehicles to stop upon approaching school buses, or violating any of the provisions of this subsection, violates the town ordinance.

(e) The preceding subdivisions of this subsection shall not be applicable to the vehicles of street railway companies, as defined in § 65-16-101, while such vehicles are being used for the transportation of school children within a municipality or its environs in the area over which a municipality or a municipal regulatory agency has regulatory jurisdiction under § 65-16-101.

(2) (a) (i) The driver of a vehicle on a highway upon meeting or overtaking from either direction any church bus which has stopped on the highway for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers shall stop the vehicle before reaching such church bus, and the driver shall not proceed until such church bus resumes motion or is signaled by the church bus driver to proceed or the visual signals on the bus are no longer actuated.

(ii) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply unless the church bus has the same type of safety equipment indicating the bus has stopped as is required for school buses.

(b) All motor vehicles used in transporting passengers to and from churches in this state are required to be distinctly marked "Church Bus" on the front and rear thereof in letters of not less than six inches (6") in height and so plainly written or printed and so arranged as to be legible to persons approaching such church bus, whether traveling in the same or the opposite direction.

(c) (i) The driver of a vehicle upon a highway with separate roadways need not stop upon meeting or passing a church bus which is on a different roadway or when upon a controlled access highway and the church bus is stopped in a loading zone which is a part of or adjacent to such highway and where pedestrians are not permitted to cross the roadway.

(ii) For the purpose of subdivision (c)(i), "separate roadways" means roadways divided by an intervening space which is not suitable to vehicular traffic.

(d) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, the church bus driver is required to stop such church bus on the right-hand side of the road or highway, and the driver shall cause the bus to remain stationary and the visual stop signs on the bus actuated until all passengers who should be discharged from the bus have been so discharged and until all passengers whose destination causes them to

cross the road or highway at that place have negotiated such crossing.
(1995 Code, § 15-509, modified)

CHAPTER 6

PARKING

SECTION

- 15-601. Generally.
- 15-602. Angle parking.
- 15-603. Occupancy of more than one space.
- 15-604. Where prohibited.
- 15-605. Loading and unloading zones.
- 15-606. Time limitations.
- 15-607. Presumption with respect to illegal parking.
- 15-608. Parking in subdivision rights-of-way.
- 15-609. Exemptions.

15-601. Generally. No person shall leave any motor vehicle unattended on any street without first setting the brakes thereon, stopping the motor, removing the ignition key, and turning the front wheels of such vehicle toward the nearest curb or gutter of the street.

Except as hereinafter provided, every vehicle parked upon a street within this town shall be so parked that its right wheels are approximately parallel to and within eighteen inches (18") of the right edge or curb of the street. On one-way streets where the town has not placed signs prohibiting the same, vehicles may be permitted to park on the left side of the street, and in such cases the left wheels shall be required to be within eighteen inches (18") of the left edge or curb of the street.

Notwithstanding anything else in this code to the contrary, no person shall park or leave a vehicle parked on any public street or alley within the fire limits between the hours of 1:00 A.M. and 5:00 A.M. or on any other public street or alley for more than seventy-two (72) consecutive hours without the prior approval of the chief of police. (1995 Code, § 15-601, modified)

15-602. Angle parking. On those streets which have been signed or marked by the town for angle parking, no person shall park or stand a vehicle other than at the angle indicated by such signs or markings. No person shall angle park any vehicle which has a trailer attached thereto or which has a length in excess of twenty-four feet (24'). (1995 Code, § 15-602)

15-603. Occupancy of more than one space. No person shall park a vehicle in any designated parking space so that any part of such vehicle occupies more than one (1) such space or protrudes beyond the official markings on the street or curb designating such space unless the vehicle is too large to be parked within a single designated space. (1995 Code, § 15-603)

15-604. Where prohibited. No person shall park a vehicle in violation of any sign placed or erected by the state or town, nor:

- (1) On a sidewalk.
- (2) In front of a public or private driveway.
- (3) Within an intersection or within fifteen feet (15') thereof.
- (4) Within fifteen feet (15') of a fire hydrant.
- (5) Within a pedestrian crosswalk.
- (6) Within fifty feet (50') of a railroad crossing.
- (7) Within twenty feet (20') of the driveway entrance to any fire station, and on the side of the street opposite the entrance to any fire station within seventy-five feet (75') of the entrance.
- (8) Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when other traffic would be obstructed.
- (9) On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street.
- (10) Upon any bridge.
- (11) Alongside any curb painted yellow or red by the town.
- (12) Within any town parking lot for a continuous period between 9:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M.
- (13) Within or in front of a fire lane in any parking area open to the public regardless of the same being publicly or privately owned. (1995 Code, § 15-604, as amended by Ord. #06/07-20, March 2007)

15-605. Loading and unloading zones. No person shall park a vehicle for any purpose or period of time other than for the expeditious loading or unloading of passengers or merchandise in any place marked by the town as a loading and unloading zone. (1995 Code, § 15-605)

15-606. Time limitations.¹ Customers only parking shall be posted as such with said restrictions existing between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. Monday through Saturday. A violation of the restrictions in said street parking spaces shall be punishable by a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each violation in the Dandridge town court. Said restrictions stated herein shall not apply to any present or future handicap parking space within the downtown business district.

Customers shall be defined as any business customer or any professional office customer, client or patient. Customer shall also include any other professional who is engaged in professional activity and required to attend a proceeding or hearing at any professional office or the courthouse or town hall. Customer shall also include any person or public official who is conducting business at the courthouse or town hall. (Ord. #08/09-21, June 2009)

¹The master plan is on file and available for review at town hall.

15-607. Presumption with respect to illegal parking. When any unoccupied vehicle is found parked in violation of any provision of this chapter, there shall be a prima facie presumption that the registered owner of the vehicle is responsible for such illegal parking. (1995 Code, § 15-607)

15-608. Parking in subdivision rights-of-way. No vehicle shall be parked along the curb within any subdivision or in any subdivision right-of-way within the Town of Dandridge between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. during any weekday.

There shall be placed by the town or the subdivision homeowner's association or developer at the entrance to the subdivision at least one (1) street sign advising that no parking shall be allowed in the subdivision streets or rights-of-way between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday.

Nothing contained herein shall prohibit the parking of utility provider vehicles, delivery vehicles, and/or service provider delivery vehicles from parking along the curb within any subdivision during the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. while their services are being rendered within the subdivision. (Ord. #06/07-09, Dec. 2006, modified)

15-609. Exemptions. Each business owner or professional shall be allowed to park for a time in a parking space adjacent to their business or professional office for up to a thirty (30) minute period for the purpose of loading and unloading at their business. Each resident of the downtown business district shall be allowed to park in one (1) parking space at anytime without time limits. (Ord. #08/09-21, June 2009, as amended by Ord. #11/12-07, Oct. 2011, modified)

CHAPTER 7

ENFORCEMENT

SECTION

- 15-701. Issuance of traffic citations.
- 15-702. Failure to obey citation.
- 15-703. Illegal parking.
- 15-704. Impoundment of vehicles.
- 15-705. Disposal of abandoned motor vehicles.
- 15-706. Violations and penalty.

15-701. Issuance of traffic citations.¹ When a police officer halts a traffic violator other than for the purpose of giving a warning, he shall take the name, address, and operator's license number of said person, the license number of the motor vehicle involved, and such other pertinent information as may be necessary, and shall issue to him a written traffic citation containing a notice to answer to the charge against him in the town court at a specified time. It shall be unlawful for any alleged violator to give false or misleading information as to his name or address. (1995 Code, § 15-701, modified)

15-702. Failure to obey citation. It shall be unlawful for any person to violate his written promise to appear in court after giving said promise to an officer upon the issuance of a traffic citation, regardless of the disposition of the charge for which the citation was originally issued. (1995 Code, § 15-702)

15-703. Illegal parking. Whenever any motor vehicle without a driver is found parked or stopped in violation of any of the restrictions imposed by this code, the officer finding such vehicle shall take its license number and may take any other information displayed on the vehicle which may identify its user, and shall conspicuously affix to such vehicle a citation for the driver and/or owner to answer for the violation within ten (10) days during the hours and at a place specified in the citation. (1995 Code, § 15-703)

15-704. Impoundment of 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 or hazard to normal traffic. Any vehicle left parked on any street or alley for more than seventy-two (72)

¹State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 7-63-101, et seq.

consecutive hours without permission from the chief of police shall be presumed to have been abandoned if the owner cannot be located after a reasonable investigation. Such an impounded vehicle shall be stored until the owner claims it, gives satisfactory evidence of ownership, and pays all applicable fines and costs. The fee for impounding a vehicle shall be five dollars (\$5.00) and a storage cost of one dollar (\$1.00) per day shall also be charged. (1995 Code, § 15-704)

15-705. Disposal of abandoned motor vehicles. "Abandoned motor vehicles," as defined in *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 55-16-103, shall be impounded and disposed of by the chief of police in accordance with the provisions of *Tennessee Code Annotated*, §§ 55-16-103 through 55-16-109. (1995 Code, § 15-705)

15-706. Violations and penalty. Any violation of this title shall be a civil offense punishable as follows:

(1) Traffic citations. Traffic citations shall be punishable by a civil penalty up to fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each separate offense.

(2) Parking violations. For every parking violation, the offender may prior to their municipal court hearing date have the parking violation citation disposed of by paying the Town of Dandridge a civil penalty of ten dollars (\$10.00) for each citation and waiving their right to a judicial hearing. If a violator does not dispose of the citation as here and above provided their civil penalty shall be from ten dollars (\$10.00) to fifty dollars (\$50.00). (1995 Code, § 15-706, as amended by Ord. #05/06-19, April 2006, modified)