

TITLE 15

MOTOR VEHICLES, TRAFFIC AND PARKING¹

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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.

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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. (1983 Code, § 9-101)

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. (1983 Code, § 9-106)

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. (1983 Code, § 9-107)

15-104. 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.

(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. (1983 Code, § 9-109)

15-105. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-110)

15-106. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-111)

15-107. 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 unless otherwise directed by a public safety officer.

It shall be unlawful for any pedestrian or the operator of any vehicle willfully to violate or fail to comply with the reasonable directions of any public safety officer. (1983 Code, § 9-112)

15-108. General requirements for traffic-control signs, etc. All traffic-control signs, signals, markings, and devices shall conform to the latest revision of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways,² published by the U. S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and shall, so far as practicable, be uniform as to type and location throughout the city. This section shall not be construed as being mandatory but is merely directive. (1983 Code, § 9-113)

15-109. 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

¹Municipal code references

Stop signs, yield signs, flashing signals, traffic control signals generally: §§ 15-505--15-508.

²This manual may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

official traffic-control sign, signal, marking, or device or any railroad sign or signal. (1983 Code, § 9-114)

15-110. 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. All presently installed traffic-control signs, signals, markings and devices are hereby expressly authorized, ratified, and approved irrespective of whether or not they were lawfully placed originally. (1983 Code, § 9-115)

15-111. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-116)

15-112. Driving through funerals or other processions. Except when otherwise directed by a public safety 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. (1983 Code, § 9-117)

15-113. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-119)

15-114. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-120)

15-115. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-121)

15-116. 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 (12) inches square. Between one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) hour after sunset and one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) 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 (200) feet from the rear of such vehicle. (1983 Code, § 9-122)

15-117. Causing unnecessary noise. It shall be unlawful for any person to cause unnecessary noise by unnecessarily sounding the horn, "racing" the motor, or causing the "screeching" or "squealing" of the tires on any motor vehicle. (1983 Code, § 9-123)

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" or the "Uniform Motor Vehicle Operators' and Chauffeurs' License Law." (1983 Code, § 9-124)

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. (1983 Code, § 9-125)

15-120. Damaging pavements. No person shall operate or cause to be operated upon any street of the city any vehicle, motor propelled or otherwise, which by reason of its weight or the character of its wheels, tires, or track is likely to damage the surface or foundation of the street. (1983 Code, § 9-118)

15-121. Bicycle riders, etc. Every person riding or operating a bicycle, motorcycle, or motor scooter shall be subject to the provisions of all traffic ordinances, rules, and regulations of the city 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 scooters.

No person operating or riding a bicycle, motorcycle, or motor scooter 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 scooter 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 scooter 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 scooter 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 cycles 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. (1983 Code, § 9-126)

15-122. Compliance with financial responsibility law required.

(1) Every vehicle operated within the corporate limits must be in compliance with the financial responsibility law.

(2) At the time the driver of a motor vehicle is charged with any moving violation under 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.

(3) 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.

(4) Civil offense. It is a civil offense to fail to provide evidence of financial responsibility pursuant to this section. Any violation to this section is punishable by a civil penalty of up to fifty dollars (\$50.00). The civil penalty prescribed by this section shall be in addition to any other penalty prescribed by the laws of this state or by the city's municipal code of ordinances.

(5) Evidence of compliance after violation. On or before the court date, the person charged with a violation of this section may submit evidence of compliance with this section in effect at the time of the violation. If the court is satisfied that compliance was in effect at the time of the violation, the charge of failure to provide evidence of financial responsibility may be dismissed. (as added by Ord. #2009-177, Oct. 2009)

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. (1983 Code, § 9-102)

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 500 feet 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. (1983 Code, § 9-103)

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 (500) feet or drive or park such vehicle within the block where fire apparatus has stopped in answer to a fire alarm. (1983 Code, § 9-104)

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 public safety officer. (1983 Code, § 9-105)

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. (1983 Code, § 9-201)

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. (1983 Code, § 9-202)

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 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. Speed limits enacted pursuant to this paragraph shall not apply at school entrances and exits to and from controlled access highways on the system of state highways.

When the city council 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 forty (40) minutes before the opening hour of a school or a period of forty (40) 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. (1983 Code, § 9-203)

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 authority of the city. (1983 Code, § 9-204)

CHAPTER 4**TURNING MOVEMENTS****SECTION**

15-401. Generally.

15-402. Right turns.

15-403. Left turns on other than two-way roadways.

15-404. U-turns.

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 (1983 Code, § 9-301)

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. (1983 Code, § 9-302)

15-403. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-304, as renumbered by Ord. #99-103, Sept. 1999)

15-404. U-turns. U-turns are prohibited. (1983 Code, § 9-305, as renumbered by Ord. #99-103, Sept. 1999)

¹State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-8-143.

CHAPTER 5

STOPPING AND YIELDING

SECTION

- 15-501. Upon approach of authorized emergency vehicles.
- 15-502. When emerging from alleys, etc.
- 15-503. To prevent obstructing an intersection.
- 15-504. At railroad crossings.
- 15-505. At "stop" signs.
- 15-506. At "yield" signs.
- 15-507. At traffic-control signals generally.
- 15-508. At flashing traffic-control signals.
- 15-509. Stops to be signaled.

15-501. Upon approach of authorized emergency vehicles.¹ 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 public safety officer. (1983 Code, § 9-401)

15-502. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-402)

15-503. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-403)

¹Municipal code reference

Special privileges of emergency vehicles: title 15, chapter 2.

15-504. 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 a human flagman signals the approach of a railroad train.

(3) A railroad train is approaching within approximately fifteen hundred (1500) 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. (1983 Code, § 9-404)

15-505. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-405)

15-506. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-406)

15-507. 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 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 there is no crosswalk, 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 city, 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 city at intersections which the city 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. (1983 Code, § 9-407)

15-508. 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 in the city it shall require obedience by vehicular traffic as follows:

(a) 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.

(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 § 15-504 of this code. (1983 Code, § 9-408)

15-509. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-409)

¹State law reference
Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-8-143.

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. Presumption with respect to illegal parking.

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 the City of Dyer shall be parked so that its right wheels are approximately parallel to and within eighteen (18) inches of the right 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.

Furthermore, no person shall wash, grease, or work on any vehicle, except to make repairs necessitated by an emergency, while such vehicle is parked on a public street. (1983 Code, § 9-501)

15-602. Angle parking. On those streets which have been signed or marked by the city 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 (24) feet. (1983 Code, § 9-502)

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 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. (1983 Code, § 9-503)

15-604. Where prohibited. (1) In general. No person shall park a vehicle in violation of any sign placed or erected by the state or city, nor:

- (a) On a sidewalk.
- (b) In front of a public or private driveway.

- (c) Within an intersection or within fifteen (15) feet thereof.
- (d) Within fifteen (15) feet of a fire hydrant.
- (e) Within a pedestrian crosswalk.
- (f) Within fifty (50) feet of a railroad crossing.
- (g) Within twenty (20) feet 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 (75) feet of the entrance.
- (h) Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when other traffic would be obstructed.
- (i) On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street.

(j) Upon any bridge.

(k) Alongside any curb painted yellow or red by the city.

(l) On or alongside any portion of Main Street being Highway 45W from the north boundary of Ashley Street to the south boundary of Broad Street at those respective intersections with Main Street. Any automobile found to be parked along the section of Main Street between Ashley Street and Broad Street other than for forty-five (45) minute limitation for the purpose of loading or unloading merchandise within designated loading zones shall be subject to the issuance of citations to city court with the following penalties to apply:

First offense - Fine of ten dollars (\$10.00) .

Second offense - Fine of twenty dollars (\$20.00) and costs.

Third and subsequent offenses: Police department shall be directed to have the automobile towed and impound the automobile to be redeemed by the owner paying towing fees, plus court costs.

(2) Tractor trailer trucks. Except for short-term loading and unloading operations, it shall be unlawful to park a tractor trailer truck on any street of the city except in special areas designated for that purpose. (1983 Code, § 9-504)

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 city as a loading and unloading zone. (1983 Code, § 9-505)

15-606. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-506)

CHAPTER 7

REGISTRATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

SECTION

- 15-701. Registration and fees.
- 15-702. Transfer of title of vehicle.
- 15-703. General exemptions.
- 15-704. Special exemptions.
- 15-705. Display of registration license or certificate.
- 15-706. Use of funds.
- 15-707. Violations.

15-701. Registration and fees. Each resident of the city who owns, leases, or operates a motor vehicle which is required to be registered with the state department of revenue motor vehicle division shall be responsible for registering such motor vehicle with the city recorder between January 1st and April 15th of each year. The fee shall be thirty dollars (\$30.00) per registration.

Any registration purchased after April 15th of each year or after 30 days established residence within the City of Dyer shall be assessed an additional \$42.00 late charge. (Ord. #89-34, Sept. 1989, as amended by Ord. #97-79, March 1997, Ord. #97-84, June 1997, Ord. #2001-113, June 2001, Ord. #2003-133, July 2003, and Ord. #2009-178, Dec. 2009)

15-702. Transfer of title of vehicle. Whenever the ownership of any registered vehicle shall become changed by sale or otherwise, the purchaser or receiver thereof shall be required to notify the city recorder of such transfer and shall receive a new sticker in his name for which he shall pay the city recorder a fee of one dollar (\$1.00) (1983 Code, § 9-602)

15-703. General exemptions. This chapter shall not apply to cars operating under the supervision of the public utilities commission nor to vehicles owned and operated by the county, state, or federal government when operating exclusively for county, state, or federal purposes. (1983 Code, § 9-603)

15-704. Special exemptions. All dealers or manufacturers of motor vehicles, motorcycles, auto trucks, or like vehicles, when such vehicles are owned by them, shall make application to and receive from the city recorder a general distinguishing number or mark, which shall be known as a demonstration number, and the same shall be used by said dealer or manufacturer only while such vehicle is actually being demonstrated to a customer or prospective purchaser. Motor vehicles, motorcycles, auto trucks, or like vehicles used in the service of the manufacturer, sales agent, or dealer must be provided with a regular license as provided for in § 15-701 and shall not at

any time use or display the special or demonstration number plate while in the service of the owner, agent, or dealer other than for demonstration as aforesaid. (1983 Code, § 9-604)

15-705. Display of registration license or certificate. Upon payment of the applicable license fee by the vehicle owner or operator, the city recorder shall issue a serially numbered tag or sticker which the owner or operator shall firmly attach to the metal state license plate issued to his vehicle so that it may be readily observed from the outside of the vehicle. (Ord. #89-34, Sept. 1989)

15-706. Use of funds. The revenue from the license fees collected under this chapter shall be used in paying for the cost of administration of this chapter, the enforcement of its provisions, for the promotion of traffic safety and installation of signs, signals, markings, and other safety devices, and for regulating traffic on the streets of the city. (1983 Code, § 9-606)

15-707. Violations. Any persons, firm, or corporation operating or undertaking to operate any motor vehicle in violation of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and each day any violation continues or occurs shall constitute a separate offense. (Ord. #97-79, March 1997)

CHAPTER 8

ENFORCEMENT

SECTION

- 15-801. Issuance of traffic citations.
- 15-802. Failure to obey citation.
- 15-803. Illegal parking.
- 15-804. Impoundment of vehicles.
- 15-805. Deposit of chauffeur's or operator's license in lieu of bail--receipt--failure to appear.
- 15-806. Violation and penalty.

15-801. Issuance of traffic citations.¹ When a public safety officer halts a traffic violator other than for the purpose of giving a warning, and does not take such person into custody under arrest, 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 city court at a specified time. The officer, upon receiving the written promise of the alleged violator to answer as specified in the citation, shall release such person from custody. It shall be unlawful for any alleged violator to give false or misleading information as to his name or address. (1983 Code, § 9-801)

15-802. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-802)

15-803. 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. (1983 Code, § 9-803, modified)

15-804. Impoundment of vehicles. Members of the public safety department are hereby authorized, when reasonably necessary for the security

¹State law reference

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

of the vehicle or to prevent obstruction of traffic, to remove from the streets and impound any vehicle whose operator is arrested or any unattended vehicle which is parked so as to constitute an obstruction or hazard to normal traffic. Any impounded vehicle shall be stored until the owner or other person entitled thereto, claims it, gives satisfactory evidence of ownership or right to possession, and pays all applicable fees and costs, or until it is otherwise lawfully disposed of. The fee for impounding a vehicle shall be five dollars (\$5.00) and the storage cost shall be one dollar (\$1.00) for each twenty-four (24) hour period or fraction thereof that the vehicle is stored. (1983 Code, § 9-804)

15-805. Deposit of chauffeur's or operator's license in lieu of bail—receipt—failure to appear. Whenever any non-resident of the City of Dyer, Tennessee, lawfully possessed of a chauffeur's or operator's license theretofore issued to him by the Tennessee Department of Safety, or under the driver licensing laws of any other state or territory or the District of Columbia, is, within the geographic boundaries of Dyer, Tennessee, issued a citation or arrested and charged with violation of state statutes regulating traffic, except those statutes the violation of which calls for the mandatory revocation of an operator's or chauffeur's license for any period of time, such person shall have the option of depositing his chauffeur's or operator's license with the officer or court demanding bail in lieu of any other security required for his appearance in the city court in answer to such charge before the court.

The provisions of this section are adopted pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 55-50-801 through 55-50-805, and the recorder is directed to make the proper notifications as required by the Tennessee Code Annotated. (1983 Code, § 9-805)

15-806. Violation 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 citations. For parking violations, the offender may, waive his right to a judicial hearing and have the charges disposed of out of court, but the fines shall be three dollars (\$3.00) within ten (10) days, and five dollars (\$5.00) thereafter. (1983 Code, § 9-803, modified)

CHAPTER 9

MEDIUM SPEED VEHICLES ON CITY STREETS

SECTION

15-901. Definitions.

15-902. Permitted streets.

15-903. License requirements.

15-904. Vehicle requirements.

15-905. Registration requirements.

15-901. Definitions. The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this chapter unless it is apparent from the context that a different meaning is intended:

(1) "Medium speed vehicle" means any four (4) wheeled electric or gasoline-powered vehicle, excluding golf carts, whose top speed is greater than thirty miles per hour (30 mph), including neighborhood electric vehicles. Medium speed vehicles must comply with the standards in 49 C.F.R. 571.500. (as added by Ord. #2012-211, Oct. 2012)

15-902. Permitted streets. The City of Dyer hereby permits medium speed vehicles to operate on all city streets with a posted speed limit of not more than forty miles per hour (40 mph) except Main Street, and Poplar Grove Road (State Highway 185). A medium speed vehicle is permitted to cross streets that exceed this forty mile per hour (40 mph) limit. (as added by Ord. #2012-211, Oct. 2012)

15-903. License requirements. Operators of medium speed vehicles must have a valid Class D driver license in their possession when operating these vehicles on Tennessee's roads. (as added by Ord. #2012-211, Oct. 2012)

15-904. Vehicle requirements. All medium speed vehicles permitted to operate on city streets must meet the definition of a medium speed vehicle. As outlined in Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-1-125, a medium speed vehicle must meet all of the following conditions:

(1) The vehicle's top speed is greater than thirty miles per hour (30 mph) but not greater than thirty-five miles per hour (35 mph).

(2) The vehicle shall contain the following items, as outlined in 49 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) 571:

- (a) Headlights;
- (b) Stop lights;
- (c) Front and rear turn signal lights;
- (d) Tail lights;

- (e) Reflex reflectors, one (1) red on each side near the rear and one (1) on the rear;
- (f) Parking brake;
- (g) One (1) exterior mirror on the driver's side and one (1) additional mirror, either on the passenger side or in the interior;
- (h) Windshield that conforms to the federal motor vehicle safety standard on glazing materials (49 C.F.R. 571.205);
- (i) Seat belts (Type 1 or 2) located at each seating position;
- (j) Vehicle ID Number (VIN), conforming to 49 C.F.R. 565. (as added by Ord. #2012-211, Oct. 2012)

15-905. Registration requirements. All medium speed vehicles shall be inspected and issued a registration sticker from the City of Dyer prior to being operated on city streets.

(1) All medium speed vehicles must be registered as such with the State of Tennessee through the county clerk.

(2) All medium speed vehicles operated on city streets must be registered pursuant to § 15-705 of the Dyer Municipal Code.

(3) An inspection of medium speed vehicles shall be conducted by the chief of police or his designee before a city registration sticker is issued.

(4) An annual registration/permit sticker shall be affixed to the metal license plate as designated in § 15-705 of the Dyer Municipal Code. (as added by Ord. #2012-211, Oct. 2012)