TITLE 15

MOTOR VEHICLES, TRAFFIC AND PARKING[1]

CHAPTER

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CHAPTER 1

MISCELLANEOUS[2]

SECTION

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[1]Municipal code reference
Excavations and obstructions in streets, etc.: title 16.

[2]State 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. (1970 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. (1970 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. (1970 Code, § 9-107)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-109)

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 municipality 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. (1970 Code, § 9-110)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-111)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-112)

15-108. Miscellaneous traffic-control signs, etc.[3] 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 municipality unless otherwise directed by a police officer.

It shall be unlawful for any pedestrian or the operator of any vehicle to willfully violate or fail to comply with the reasonable directions of any police officer. (1970 Code, § 9-113)

15-109. 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,[4] published by the U. S. Department of Transportation, Federal

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[3]Municipal code references

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

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

Highway Administration, and shall, so far as practicable, be uniform as to type and location throughout the municipality. This section shall not be construed as being mandatory but is merely directive. (1970 Code, § 9-114)

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 or any railroad sign or signal. (1970 Code, § 9-115)

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 municipal 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. (1970 Code, § 9-116)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-117)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-118)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-120)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-121)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-122)

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 (12) inches square. Between one-half (½) hour after sunset and one-half (½) 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. (1970 Code, § 9-123)

15-118. 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. (1970 Code, § 9-124)

15-119. 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." (1970 Code, § 9-125)

15-120. 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. (1970 Code, § 9-126)

15-121. Damaging pavements. No person shall operate or cause to be operated upon any street of the municipality 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. (1970 Code, § 9-119)

15-122. 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 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, in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-9-301, approved by the state's commissioner of safety.

Any person operating or riding as a passenger on a motor scooter, moped, other motor driven bicycle or motorcycle on a public roadway, park, bicycle path or other right-of-way under the jurisdiction of the city shall wear a protective helmet designed for the safety of such operator or passenger. Such protective helmet shall meet or exceed the standards as adopted from time-to-time by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or the Snell Foundation.

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 to knowingly permit any minor to operate a motorcycle or motor driven cycle in violation of this section. (1970 Code, § 9-127)

15-123. Lighting requirements for bicycles, motor scooters, mopeds and motor driven bicycles. No person shall operate a bicycle, motor scooter, moped or other motor driven bicycle upon a public roadway or other right-of-way under the jurisdiction of the city during a period of ½ (one-half) hour after sunset to ½ (one-half) hour before sunrise unless such vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front thereof which emits a white light visible for a distance of at least 500 feet to the front and a red reflector on the rear which is visible for a distance of at least 300 feet to the rear when positioned directly in front of a motor vehicle operating with upper beams of headlight engaged. The operator of such bicycle, motor scooter, moped or other motor driven bicycle may also have on the rear of such vehicle a lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of up to 500 feet to the rear. (1970 Code, § 9-128)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-102)

15-202. Operation of authorized emergency vehicles.[5] (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. (1970 Code, § 9-103)

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[5]Municipal 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. (1970 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 fireman or policeman. (1970 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. (1970 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. (1970 Code, § 9-202)

15-303. In school zones. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a motor vehicle at a rate of speed in excess of fifteen (15) miles per hour when passing a school during recess or while children are going to or leaving school during its opening or closing hours. (1970 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 municipality. (1970 Code, § 9-204)

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.

15-401. 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.[6] (1970 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. (1970 Code, § 9-302)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-303)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-304)

15-405. U-turns. U-turns are prohibited. (1970 Code, § 9-305)

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[6]State 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.[7] Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle making use of audible and/or visual signals meeting the requirements of the laws of this state, or of a police vehicle properly and lawfully making use of an audible signal only, the driver of every other vehicle shall immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as close as possible to, the right hand edge or curb of the roadway clear of any intersection and shall stop and remain in such position until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer. (1970 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. (1970 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. (1970 Code, § 9-403)

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[7]Municipal 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. (1970 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. (1970 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. (1970 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 none, then before entering the intersection and shall remain standing until green or "Go" is shown alone.

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

(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. (1970 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 by the municipality it shall require obedience by vehicular traffic as follows:

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

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

(2) This section shall not apply at railroad grade crossings. Conduct of drivers of vehicles approaching railroad grade crossings shall be governed by the rules set forth in § 15-504 of this code. (1970 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,[8] except in an emergency. (1970 Code, § 9-409)

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[8]State 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. Regulation by parking meters.
15-607. Lawful parking in parking meter spaces.
15-608. Unlawful parking in parking meter spaces.
15-609. Unlawful to occupy more than one parking meter space.
15-610. Unlawful to deface or tamper with meters.
15-611. Unlawful to deposit slugs in meters.
15-612. 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 this municipality shall be so parked that its right wheels are approximately parallel to and within eighteen (18) inches of the right edge or curb of the street. On one-way streets where the municipality 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 (18) inches 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.

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. (1970 Code, § 9-501)

15-602. Angle parking. On those streets which have been signed or marked by the municipality 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. (1970 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. (1970 Code, § 9-503)

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

(1) On a sidewalk.

(2) In front of a public or private driveway.

(3) Within an intersection or within fifteen (15) feet thereof.

(4) Within fifteen (15) feet of a fire hydrant.

(5) Within a pedestrian crosswalk.

(6) Within fifty (50) feet of a railroad crossing.

(7) 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.

(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 municipality. (1970 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 municipality as a loading and unloading zone. (1970 Code, § 9-505)

15-606. Regulation by parking meters. In the absence of an official sign to the contrary which has been installed by the municipality, between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M., on all days except Sundays and holidays declared by the governing body, parking shall be regulated by parking meters where the same have been installed by the municipality. The presumption shall be that all installed parking meters were lawfully installed by the municipality. (1970 Code, § 9-506)

15-607. Lawful parking in parking meter spaces. Any parking space regulated by a parking meter may be lawfully occupied by a vehicle only after a proper coin has been deposited in the parking meter and the said meter has been activated or placed in operation in accordance with the instructions printed thereon. (1970 Code, § 9-507)

15-608. Unlawful parking in parking meter spaces. It shall be unlawful for the owner or operator of any vehicle to park or allow his vehicle to be parked in a parking space regulated by a parking meter for more than the maximum period of time which can be purchased at one time. Insertion of additional coin or coins in the meter to purchase additional time is unlawful.

No owner or operator of any vehicle shall park or allow his vehicle to be parked in such a space when the parking meter therefor indicates no parking time allowed, whether such indication is the result of a failure to deposit a coin or to operate the lever or other actuating device on the meter, or the result of the automatic operation of the meter following the expiration of the lawful parking time subsequent to depositing a coin therein at the time the vehicle was parked. (1970 Code, § 9-508)

15-609. Unlawful to occupy more than one parking meter space. It shall be unlawful for the owner or operator of any vehicle to park or allow his vehicle to be parked across any line or marking designating a parking meter space or otherwise so that such vehicle is not entirely within the designated parking meter space; provided, however, that vehicles which are too large to park within one space may be permitted to occupy two adjoining spaces provided proper coins are placed in both meters. (1970 Code, § 9-509)

15-610. Unlawful to deface or tamper with meters. It shall be unlawful for any unauthorized person to open, deface, tamper with, willfully break, destroy, or impair the usefulness of any parking meter. (1970 Code, § 9-510)

15-611. Unlawful to deposit slugs in meters. It shall be unlawful for any person to deposit in a parking meter any slug or other substitute for a coin of the United States. (1970 Code, § 9-511)

15-612. 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. (1970 Code, § 9-512)

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. Deposit of driver's license in lieu of bail.
15-706. Disposal of abandoned motor vehicles.
15-707. Violation and penalty.

15-701. Issuance of traffic citations.[9] When a police 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. (1970 Code, § 9-601)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-602)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-603, modified)

15-704. Impoundment of vehicles. Members of the police department are hereby authorized, when reasonably necessary for the security of the vehicle

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[9]State law reference

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

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 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. (1970 Code, § 9-604)

15-705. Deposit of driver's license in lieu of bail. Pursuant to the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 55-50-801 through 55-50-805, whenever any person 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 issued a citation or arrested and charged with a violation of any municipal ordinance or state statute regulating traffic, except those ordinances and statutes, the violation of which call 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 court in answer to such charge before the court.

Whenever any person deposits his chauffeur's or operator's license as provided, either the officer or the court demanding bail shall issue said person a receipt for said license upon a form approved or provided by the state department of safety.

The clerk or judge of a court accepting the license shall thereafter forward to the state department of safety, the license of a driver deposited in lieu of bail if the driver fails to appear in answer to the charge filed against him.

Where a licensee has deposited his license with the officer or court demanding bail, and has received a receipt from the officer or the court, the same is to serve as a substitute for the license until the specified date for court appearance of licensee or the license is otherwise returned to the licensee by the officer or court accepting the same for deposit. (1970 Code, § 9-602.1)

15-706. 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 police department in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 55-16-103 through 55-16-109. (1970 Code, § 9-605)

15-707. 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. (a) Parking meter. If the offense is a parking meter violation, the offender may, within seven (7) days, have the charge against him disposed of by paying to the city recorder a fine of fifty cents (50¢) provided he waives his right to a judicial hearing. If he appears and waives his right to a judicial hearing after seven (7) days but before a warrant for his arrest is issued, his fine shall be one dollar ($1.00).

(b) Other parking violations. For other parking violations, the offender may similarly waive his right to a judicial hearing and have the charges disposed of out of court but the fines shall be one dollar ($1.00) within seven (7) days and five dollars ($5.00) thereafter. (1970 Code, § 9-603, modified)