

TITLE VII: TRAFFIC CODE

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CHAPTER 70: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section

General Provisions

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GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 70.01 DEFINITIONS.

Except as otherwise provided, the definitions set forth in R.C. § 4501.01 shall apply to this Title, Chapter 95, and the penal laws of the municipality. For the purpose of this Title and Chapter 95, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

AGRICULTURAL TRACTOR. Every self-propelled vehicle designed or used for drawing other vehicles or wheeled machinery, but having no provision for carrying loads independently of such other vehicles, and used principally for agricultural purposes.

ALLEY. A street or highway intended to provide access to the rear or side of lots or buildings in urban districts, and not intended for the purpose of through vehicular traffic, and any street or highway that has been declared an "alley" by the Legislative Authority of the municipality in which the street or highway is located.

ARTERIAL STREET. Any United States or state numbered route, controlled-access highway, or other major radial or circumferential street or highway designated by local authorities within their respective jurisdictions as part of a major arterial system of streets or highways.

BICYCLE. Every device, other than a tricycle designed solely for use as a play vehicle by a child, propelled solely by human power, upon which any person may ride having two tandem wheels, or one wheel in the front and two wheels in the rear, or two wheels in the front and one wheel in the rear, any of which is more than 14 inches in diameter.

BUS. Every motor vehicle designed for carrying more than nine passengers, and used for the transportation of persons other than in a ridesharing arrangement, and every

motor vehicle, automobile for hire, or funeral car, other than a taxicab or motor vehicle used in a ridesharing arrangement, designed and used for the transportation of persons for compensation.

BUSINESS DISTRICT. The territory fronting upon a street or highway, including the street or highway, between successive intersections within the municipality, where 50% or more of the frontage between successive intersections is occupied by buildings in use for business, or within or outside the municipality where 50% or more of the frontage for a distance of 300 feet or more is occupied by buildings in use for business, and the character of the territory is indicated by official traffic-control devices.

CHAUFFEURED LIMOUSINE. A motor vehicle that is designed to carry nine or fewer passengers and is operated for hire on an hourly basis pursuant to a prearranged contract for the transportation of passengers on public roads and highways along a route under the control of the person hiring the vehicle and not over a defined and regular route. "Prearranged contract" means an agreement, made in advance of boarding, to provide transportation from a specific location in an chauffeured limousine at a fixed rate per hour or trip. The term does not include any vehicle that is used exclusively in the business of funeral directing. (R.C. § 4501.01(LL))

CHILD DAY-CARE CENTER. Has the same meaning as set forth in R.C. § 5104.01.

COMMERCIAL TRACTOR. Every motor vehicle having motive power designed or used for drawing other vehicles, and not so constructed as to carry any load thereon, or designed or used for drawing other vehicles while carrying a portion of the other vehicles, or the load thereon, or both.

CONTROLLED-ACCESS HIGHWAY. Every street or highway in respect to which owners or occupants of abutting lands and other persons have no legal right or access to or from the same except at certain points only and in a manner as may be determined by the public authority having jurisdiction over the street or highway.

CROSSWALK.

(1) That part of a roadway at intersections ordinarily included within the real or projected prolongation of property lines and curb lines or, in the absence of curbs, the edges of the traversable roadway;

(2) Any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere, distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface;

(3) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this definition, there shall not be a crosswalk where the Legislative Authority has placed signs indicating no crossing.

DRIVER. Any person who drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle.

EMERGENCY VEHICLE. Emergency vehicles of municipal, township or county departments or public utility corporations, when identified as such as required by law, the Director of Public Safety, or local authorities, and motor vehicles when commandeered by a police officer.

EXPLOSIVES. Any chemical compound or mechanical mixture that is intended for the purpose of producing an explosion that contains any oxidizing and combustible units or other ingredients in such proportions, quantities, or packing that an ignition by fire, by friction, by concussion, by percussion, or by a detonator of any part of the compound or mixture may cause a sudden generation of highly heated gases, such that the resultant gaseous pressures are capable of producing destructive effects on contiguous objects, or of destroying life or limb. Manufactured articles shall not be held to be explosives when the individual units contain explosives in limited quantities of such nature or in such packing that it is impossible to procure a simultaneous or a destructive explosion of the units, to the injury of life, limb, or property by fire, friction, concussion, percussion, or by a detonator, such as fixed ammunition for small arms, firecrackers, or safety fuse matches.

EXPRESSWAY. A divided arterial highway for through traffic with full or partial control of access with an excess of 50% of all crossroads separated in grade.

FLAMMABLE LIQUID. Any liquid which has a flash point of 70°F or less, as determined by a tagliabue or equivalent closed cup test device.

FREEWAY. A divided multi-lane highway for through traffic with crossroads separated in grade and with full control of access.

FUNERAL ESCORT VEHICLE. Any motor vehicle, including a funeral hearse, while used to facilitate the movement of a funeral procession.

GROSS WEIGHT. The weight of a vehicle plus the weight of any load thereon.

HIGHWAY. The entire width between the boundary lines of every way open to the use of the public as a thoroughfare for purposes of vehicular travel.

INTERSECTION.

(1) The area embraced within the prolongation or connection of the lateral curb lines, or, if none, then the lateral boundary lines of the roadways of two highways which join one another at, or approximately at, right angles, or the area within which vehicles traveling upon different highways joining at any other angle may come in conflict.

(2) Where a highway includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then every crossing of each roadway of

the divided highway by an intersecting highway shall be regarded as a separate intersection. If an intersecting highway also includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then every crossing of two roadways of the highways shall be regarded as a separate intersection.

(3) The junction of an alley with a street or highway, or with another alley, shall not constitute an intersection.

LANED HIGHWAY. A highway the roadway of which is divided into two or more clearly marked lanes for vehicular traffic.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES. Every county, municipal, and other local board or body having authority to adopt police regulations under the Constitution and laws of this state.

MOTOR VEHICLE. Every vehicle propelled or drawn by power other than muscular power or power collected from overhead electric trolley wires, except motorized bicycles, road rollers, traction engines, power shovels, power cranes and other equipment used in construction work, and not designed for or employed in general highway transportation, hole-digging machinery, well-drilling machinery, ditch-digging machinery, farm machinery, and trailers designed and used exclusively to transport a boat between a place of storage and a marina, or in and around a marina, when drawn or towed on a street or highway for a distance of no more than ten miles and at a speed of 25 miles per hour or less.

MOTORCYCLE. Every motor vehicle other than a tractor having a seat or saddle for the use of the operator and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, including but not limited to motor vehicles known as "motor-driven cycle", "motor scooter", or "motorcycle" without regard to weight or brake horsepower.

MOTORIZED BICYCLE. Any vehicle having either two tandem wheels or one wheel in the front and two wheels in the rear, that is capable of being pedaled, and is equipped with a helper motor of not more than 50 cubic centimeters piston displacement which produces no more than one brake horsepower, and is capable of propelling the vehicle at a speed of no greater than 20 miles per hour on a level surface.

MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIR. Any self-propelled vehicle designed for, and used by, a person with a disability and that is incapable of a speed in excess of eight miles per hour.

MULTI-WHEEL AGRICULTURAL TRACTOR. A type of agricultural tractor that has two or more wheels or tires on each side of one axle at the rear of the tractor, is designed or used for drawing other vehicles or wheeled machinery, has no provision for carrying loads

independently of the drawn vehicles or machinery, and is used principally for agricultural purposes.

OPERATE. To cause or have caused movement of a vehicle.

OPERATOR. Any person who drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle.

PAKED or PARKING. The standing of a vehicle upon a street, road, alley, highway or public ground, whether accompanied or unaccompanied by a driver, but does not include the temporary standing of a vehicle for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or loading merchandise or passengers.

PEDESTRIAN. Any natural person afoot.

PERSON. Every natural person, firm, partnership, association or corporation.

POLE TRAILER. Every trailer or semitrailer attached to the towing vehicle by means of a reach, pole, or by being boomed or otherwise secured to the towing vehicle, and ordinarily used for transporting long or irregular shaped loads such as poles, pipes, or structural members capable, generally, of sustaining themselves as beams between the supporting connections.

POLICE OFFICER. Every officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic, or to make arrests for violations of traffic regulations.

PREDICATE MOTOR VEHICLE OR TRAFFIC OFFENSE. Any of the following:

(1) A violation of R.C. § 4511.03, 4511.051, 4511.12, 4511.132, 4511.16, 4511.20, 4511.201, 4511.21, 4511.211, 4511.213, 4511.22, 4511.23, 4511.25, 4511.26, 4511.27, 4511.28, 4511.29, 4511.30, 4511.31, 4511.32, 4511.33, 4511.34, 4511.35, 4511.36, 4511.37, 4511.38, 4511.39, 4511.40, 4511.41, 4511.42, 4511.43, 4511.431, 4511.432, 4511.44, 4511.441, 4511.451, 4511.452, 4511.46, 4511.47, 4511.48, 4511.481, 4511.49, 4511.50, 4511.511, 4511.53, 4511.54, 4511.55, 4511.56, 4511.57, 4511.58, 4511.59, 4511.60, 4511.61, 4511.64, 4511.66, 4511.661, 4511.68, 4511.70, 4511.701, 4511.71, 4511.711, 4511.712, 4511.713, 4511.72, 4511.73, 4511.763, 4511.771, 4511.78, or 4511.84;

(2) A violation of R.C. § 4511.17(A)(2), 4511.51(A) through (D), or 4511.74(A);

(3) A violation of any provision of R.C. §§ 4511.01 through 4511.76 for which no penalty otherwise is provided in the section that contains the provision violated;

(4) A violation of a municipal ordinance that is substantially equivalent to any section or provision set forth or described in division (1), (2), or (3) of this definition.

PRIVATE ROAD OR DRIVEWAY. Every way or place in private ownership used for vehicular travel by the owner, and those having express or implied permission from the owner, but not by other persons.

PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLE. Any of the following:

(1) Ambulances, including private ambulance companies under contract to a municipality, township, or county, and private ambulances and nontransport vehicles bearing license plates issued under R.C. § 4503.49;

(2) Motor vehicles used by public law enforcement officers or other persons sworn to enforce the criminal and traffic laws of the state;

(3) Any motor vehicle when properly identified as required by the Director of Public Safety, when used in response to fire emergency calls or to provide emergency medical service to ill or injured persons, and when operated by a duly qualified person who is a member of a volunteer rescue service or a volunteer fire department, and who is on duty pursuant to the rules or directives of that service. The State Fire Marshal shall be designated by the Director of Public Safety as the certifying agency for all public safety vehicles described herein;

(4) Vehicles used by fire departments, including motor vehicles when used by volunteer firefighters responding to emergency calls in the fire department service when identified as required by the Director of Public Safety;

(5) Any vehicle used to transport or provide emergency medical service to an ill or injured person, when certified as a public safety vehicle, shall be considered such a vehicle when transporting an ill or injured person to a hospital, regardless of whether such vehicle has already passed a hospital;

(6) Vehicles used by the Motor Carrier Enforcement Unit for the enforcement of orders and rules of the Public Utilities Commission as specified in R.C. § 5503.34.

RAILROAD. A carrier of persons or property operating upon rails placed principally on a private right-of-way.

RAILROAD SIGN OR SIGNAL. Any sign, signal, or device erected by authority of a public body or official or by a railroad, and intended to give notice of the presence of railroad tracks or the approach of a railroad train.

RAILROAD TRAIN. A steam engine or an electric or other motor, with or without cars coupled thereto, operated by a railroad.

RESIDENCE DISTRICT. The territory, not comprising a business district, fronting on a street or highway, including the street or highway, where, for a

distance of 300 feet or more, the frontage is improved with residences or residences and buildings in use for business.

RIDESHARING ARRANGEMENT. Includes the transportation of persons in a motor vehicle where the transportation is incidental to another purpose of a volunteer driver, and includes arrangements known as carpools, vanpools, and buspools.

RIGHT-OF-WAY. Either of the following, as the context requires:

(1) The right of a vehicle or pedestrian to proceed uninterruptedly in a lawful manner in the direction in which it, he or she is moving, in preference to another vehicle or pedestrian approaching from a different direction into its, his or her path;

(2) A general term denoting land, property, or the interest therein, usually in the configuration of a strip, acquired for or devoted to transportation purposes. When used in this context, "right-of-way" includes the roadway, shoulders or berm, ditch, and slopes extending to the right-of-way limits under the control of the state or local authority.

ROAD SERVICE VEHICLE. Means wreckers, utility repair vehicles, and state, county, and municipal service vehicles equipped with visual signals by means of flashing, rotating, or oscillating lights.

ROADWAY. That portion of a highway improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, except the berm or shoulder. If a highway includes two or more separate roadways, the term means any roadway separately, but not all the roadways collectively.

RURAL MAIL DELIVERY VEHICLE. Every vehicle used to deliver United States mail on a rural mail delivery route.

SAFETY ZONE. The area or space officially set apart within a roadway for the exclusive use of pedestrians, and protected or marked or indicated by adequate signs so as to be plainly visible at all times.

SCHOOL BUS. Every bus designed for carrying more than nine passengers which is owned by a public, private, or governmental agency or institution of learning, and operated for the transportation of children to or from a school session or a school function, or owned by a private person and operated for compensation for the transportation of children to or from a school session or a school function; provided the term does not include a bus operated by a municipally owned transportation system, a mass transit company operating exclusively within the territorial limits of a municipality, or within such limits and the territorial limits of municipalities immediately contiguous to the municipality, nor a common passenger carrier certified by the Public Utilities Commission unless the bus is devoted exclusively to

the transportation of children to and from a school session or a school function, and the term does not include a van or bus used by a licensed child day-care center or Type A Family Day-Care Home to transport children from the child day-care center or Type A Family Day-Care Home to a school if the van or bus does not have more than 15 children in the van or bus at any time.

SEMITRAILER. Every vehicle designed or used for carrying persons or property with another and separate motor vehicle so that in operation a part of its own weight or that of its load, or both, rests upon and is carried by another vehicle.

SIDEWALK. That portion of a street between the curb lines, or the lateral line of a roadway, and the adjacent property lines, intended for the use of pedestrians.

STANDING. When prohibited, means any halting of a vehicle, even momentarily, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or traffic control device.

STATE HIGHWAY. A highway under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation, outside the limits of municipalities, provided that the authority conferred upon the Director of Transportation in R.C. § 5511.01 to erect state highway route markers and signs directing traffic shall not be modified by R.C. §§ 4511.01 through 4511.79 and 4511.99.

STATE ROUTE. Every highway which is designated with an official state route number and so marked.

STOP. When required, means a complete cessation of movement.

STOP INTERSECTION. Any intersection at one or more entrances of which stop signs are erected.

STOPPING. When prohibited, means any halting of a vehicle, even momentarily, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or traffic control device.

STREET. The entire width between the boundary lines of every way open to the use of the public as a thoroughfare for purposes of vehicular travel.

THROUGH HIGHWAY. Every street or highway as provided in R.C. § 4511.65, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance.

THRUWAY. A through highway whose entire roadway is reserved for through traffic and on which roadway parking is prohibited.

TRAFFIC. Pedestrians, ridden or herded animals, vehicles and other devices, either singly or together, while using any highway for purposes of travel.

TRAFFIC-CONTROL DEVICES. All flagpersons, signs, signals, markings, and devices placed or erected by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction for the purpose of regulating, warning, or guiding traffic, including signs denoting names of streets and highways.

TRAFFIC-CONTROL SIGNAL. Any device, whether manually, electrically, or mechanically operated, by which traffic is alternately directed to stop, to proceed, to change direction, or not to change direction.

TRAILER. Every vehicle designed or used for carrying persons or property wholly on its own structure, and for being drawn by a motor vehicle, including any vehicle when formed by or operated as a combination of a semitrailer and a vehicle of the dolly type, such as that commonly known as a trailer dolly, a vehicle used to transport agricultural produce or agricultural production materials between a local place of storage or supply and the farm when drawn or towed on a street or highway at a speed greater than 25 miles per hour and a vehicle designed and used exclusively to transport a boat between a place of storage and a marina, or in and around a marina, when drawn or towed on a street or highway for a distance of more than ten miles or at a speed of more than 25 miles per hour.

TRUCK. Every motor vehicle, except trailers and semitrailers, designed and used to carry property.

TYPE A FAMILY DAY-CARE HOME. Has the same meaning as set forth in R.C. § 5104.01.

URBAN DISTRICT. The territory contiguous to and including any street or highway which is built up with structures devoted to business, industry, or dwelling houses situated at intervals of less than 100 feet for a distance of one-quarter of a mile or more, and the character of the territory is indicated by official traffic-control devices.

VEHICLE. Every device, including a motorized bicycle, in, upon, or by which any person or property may be transported or drawn upon a highway, except that the term does not include any motorized wheelchair, any electric personal assistive mobility device, any device that is moved by power collected from overhead electric trolley wires or that is used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks, or any device, other than a bicycle, that is moved by human power.
(R.C. § 4511.01) (Rev. 2010)

§ 70.02 COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER OF POLICE OFFICER.

(A) No person shall fail to comply with any lawful order or direction of any police officer invested with authority to direct, control, or regulate traffic.

(B) No person shall operate a motor vehicle so as willfully to elude or flee a police officer after receiving a

visible or audible signal from a police officer to bring the person's motor vehicle to a stop.

(C) (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of failure to comply with an order or signal of a police officer.

(2) A violation of division (A) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(3) Except as provided in divisions (C)(4) and (C)(5) of this section, a violation of division (B) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(4) Except as provided in division (C)(5) of this section, a violation of division (B) of this section is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate state law if the jury or judge as trier of fact finds by proof beyond a reasonable doubt that in committing the offense, the offender was fleeing immediately after the commission of a felony.

(5) (a) A violation of division (B) of this section is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate state law if the jury or judge as trier of fact finds any of the following by proof beyond a reasonable doubt:

1. The operation of the motor vehicle by the offender was a proximate cause of serious physical harm to persons or property.

2. The operation of the motor vehicle by the offender caused a substantial risk of serious physical harm to persons or property.

(b) If a police officer pursues an offender who is violating division (B) of this section and division (C)(5)(a) of this section applies, the sentencing court, in determining the seriousness of an offender's conduct for purposes of sentencing the offender for a violation of division (B) of this section, shall consider, along with the factors set forth in R.C. §§ 2929.12 and 2929.13 that are required to be considered, all of the following:

1. The duration of the pursuit;

2. The distance of the pursuit;

3. The rate of speed at which the offender operated the motor vehicle during the pursuit;

4. Whether the offender failed to stop for traffic lights or stop signs during the pursuit;

5. The number of traffic lights or stop signs for which the offender failed to stop during the pursuit;

6. Whether the offender operated the motor vehicle during the pursuit without lighted lights during a time when lighted lights are required;

7. Whether the offender committed a moving violation during the pursuit;

8. The number of moving violations the offender committed during the pursuit;

9. Any other relevant factors indicating that the offender's conduct is more serious than conduct normally constituting the offense.

(D) In addition to any other sanction imposed for a violation of this section, the court shall impose a class two suspension from the range specified in R.C. § 4510.02(A)(2). If the offender previously has been found guilty of an offense under this section or under R.C. § 2921.331, the court shall impose a class one suspension as described in R.C. § 4510.02(A)(1). The court shall not grant limited driving privileges to the offender. No judge shall suspend the first three years of suspension under a class two suspension of an offender's license, permit, or privilege required by this division or any portion of the suspension under a class one suspension of an offender's license, permit, or privilege required by this division.

(E) As used in this section:

MOVING VIOLATION. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 2743.70.

POLICE OFFICER. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 4511.01.

(R.C. § 2921.331(A) - (C), (E), (F)) (Rev. 2004)

Cross-reference:

Resisting arrest, see § 136.08

§ 70.03 EMERGENCY VEHICLES TO PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY PAST RED OR STOP SIGNAL.

(A) The driver of any emergency vehicle or public safety vehicle, when responding to an emergency call, upon approaching a red or stop signal or any stop sign, shall slow down as necessary for safety to traffic, but may proceed cautiously past the red or stop sign or signal with due regard for the safety of all persons using the street or highway.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.03) (Rev. 2004)

**§ 70.04 EXCEPTIONS GENERALLY;
EMERGENCY, PUBLIC SAFETY AND
CORONER VEHICLES EXEMPT.**

(A) The provisions of this traffic code, except for §§ 73.01 and 73.02, do not apply to persons, teams, motor vehicles, and other equipment while actually engaged in work upon the surface of a highway within an area designated by traffic-control devices, but apply to those persons and vehicles when traveling to or from such work.

(B) The driver of a highway maintenance vehicle owned by this state or any political subdivision of this state, while the driver is engaged in the performance of official duties upon a street or highway, provided the highway maintenance vehicle is equipped with flashing lights and such other markings as are required by law and such lights are in operation when the driver and vehicle are so engaged, shall be exempt from criminal prosecution for violations of R.C. §§ 4511.22, 4511.25, 4511.26, 4511.27, 4511.28, 4511.30, 4511.31, 4511.33, 4511.35, 4511.66, and 4513.02, and R.C. §§ 5577.01 through 5577.09, and any substantially equivalent municipal ordinance.

(C) (1) This section does not exempt a driver of a highway maintenance vehicle from civil liability arising from a violation of R.C. § 4511.22, 4511.25, 4511.26, 4511.27, 4511.28, 4511.30, 4511.31, 4511.33, 4511.35, 4511.66, or 4513.02 or R.C. §§ 5577.01 through 5577.09, or any substantially equivalent municipal ordinance.

(2) This section does not exempt the driver of a vehicle that is engaged in the transport of highway maintenance equipment from criminal liability for a violation of R.C. §§ 5577.01 through 5577.09, or any substantially equivalent municipal ordinance.

(D) As used in this section, **HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE VEHICLE** means a vehicle used in snow and ice removal or road surface maintenance, including a snow plow, traffic line striper, road sweeper, mowing machine, asphalt distributing vehicle, or other such vehicle designed for use in specific highway maintenance activities. (R.C. § 4511.04) (Rev. 2004)

(E) The provisions of R.C. §§ 4511.12, 4511.13, 4511.131, 4511.132, 4511.14, 4511.15, 4511.202, 4511.21, 4511.211, 4511.22, 4511.23, 4511.25, 4511.26, 4511.27, 4511.28, 4511.29, 4511.30, 4511.31, 4511.32, 4511.33, 4511.34, 4511.35, 4511.36, 4511.37, 4511.38, 4511.39, 4511.40, 4511.41, 4511.42, 4511.43, 4511.431, 4511.432, 4511.44, 4511.441, 4511.57, 4511.58, 4511.59, 4511.60, 4511.61, 4511.62, 4511.66, 4511.68, 4511.681, and 4511.69, and any substantially equivalent municipal ordinances, do not apply to the driver of an emergency vehicle or public safety vehicle if the emergency vehicle or public safety vehicle is responding to an emergency call, is equipped with and displaying at least one flashing, rotating, or oscillating light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of 500 feet to the front of the vehicle and if the driver of the vehicles is giving an audible

signal by siren, exhaust whistle, or bell. This section does not relieve the driver of an emergency vehicle or public safety vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons and property upon the highway. (R.C. § 4511.041)

(F) The provisions of R.C. §§ 4511.25, 4511.26, 4511.27, 4511.28, 4511.29, 4511.30, 4511.31, 4511.32, 4511.33, 4511.35, 4511.36, 4511.37, 4511.38, and 4511.66, or any substantially equivalent municipal ordinances, do not apply to a coroner, deputy coroner or coroner's investigator operating a motor vehicle in accordance with R.C. § 4513.171 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance. This division does not relieve a coroner, deputy coroner or coroner's investigator operating a motor vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons and property upon the highway. (R.C. § 4511.042) (Rev. 1999)

**§ 70.05 PERSONS RIDING OR DRIVING ANIMALS
UPON ROADWAYS.**

Every person riding, driving, or leading an animal upon a roadway is subject to the provisions of this traffic code, applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except those provisions of this traffic code which by their nature are inapplicable. (R.C. § 4511.05)

**§ 70.06 PROHIBITIONS AGAINST PEDESTRIANS
AND SLOW-MOVING VEHICLES ON FREEWAYS.**

(A) No person, unless otherwise directed by a police officer, shall:

(1) As a pedestrian, occupy any space within the limits of the right-of-way of a freeway, except: in a rest area; on a facility that is separated from the roadway and shoulders of the freeway and is designed and appropriately marked for pedestrian use; in the performance of public works or official duties; as a result of an emergency caused by an accident or breakdown of a motor vehicle; or to obtain assistance;

(2) Occupy any space within the limits of the right-of-way of a freeway, with an animal-drawn vehicle, a ridden or led animal, herded animals, a pushcart, a bicycle, except on a facility that is separated from the roadway and shoulders of the freeway and is designed and appropriately marked for bicycle use, a bicycle with motor attached, a motor-driven cycle with a motor which produces not to exceed five brake horsepower, an agricultural tractor, or farm machinery, except in the performance of public works or official duties.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the

offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(R.C. § 4511.051) (Rev. 2004)

Statutory reference:

Designation of a freeway, see R.C. § 4511.011

§ 70.07 USE OF PRIVATE PROPERTY FOR VEHICULAR TRAVEL.

The provisions of this traffic code do not prevent the owner of real property, used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel by permission of the owner and not as a matter of right, from prohibiting such use or from requiring additional conditions to those specified in this traffic code, or otherwise regulating such use as may seem best to the owner.

(R.C. § 4511.08)

§ 70.08 NAMES OF PERSONS DAMAGING REAL PROPERTY BY OPERATION OF VEHICLE TO BE PROVIDED TO OWNER.

(A) As used in this section, *MOTOR VEHICLE* has the same meaning as in R.C. § 4501.01.

(B) If damage is caused to real property by the operation of a motor vehicle in, or during the, violation of any section of the Ohio Revised Code or of any municipal ordinance, the law enforcement agency that investigates the case, upon request of the real property owner, shall provide the owner with the names of the persons who are charged with the commission of the offense. If a request for the names is made, the agency shall provide the names as soon as possible after the persons are charged with the offense.

(C) The personnel of law enforcement agencies who act pursuant to division (B) of this section in good faith are not liable in damages in a civil action allegedly arising from their actions taken pursuant to that division. Political subdivisions and the state are not liable in damages in a civil action allegedly arising from the actions of personnel of their law enforcement agencies if the personnel have immunity under this division.

(R.C. § 2935.28)

§ 70.09 LIMITED ACCESS HIGHWAYS; BARRIERS ALONG; VEHICLES TO ENTER AND LEAVE AT DESIGNATED INTERSECTIONS.

(A) No person, firm or corporation shall cut, injure, remove, or destroy any fence or other barrier designed and erected to prevent traffic from entering or leaving a limited access highway without the permission of the Director of

Transportation, except in a case of emergency where life or property is in danger. No person, firm or corporation shall cause a vehicle of any character to enter or leave a limited access highway at any point other than intersections designated by the Director for such purposes, except in a case of emergency where life or property is in danger.

(R.C. § 3767.201)

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

(R.C. § 3767.99(D))

§ 70.10 THROUGH HIGHWAYS.

(A) All state routes are hereby designated as through highways, provided that stop signs, yield signs, or traffic-control signals shall be erected at all intersections with such through highways by the Department of Transportation as to highways under its jurisdiction and by local authorities as to highways under their jurisdiction, except as otherwise provided in this section. Where two or more state routes that are through highways intersect, and no traffic-control signal is in operation, stop signs or yield signs shall be erected at one or more entrances thereto by the Department or by local authorities having jurisdiction, except as otherwise provided in this section. Whenever the Director of Transportation determines on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation that stop signs are necessary to stop traffic on a through highway for safe and efficient operation, nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent such installations. When circumstances warrant, the Director also may omit stop signs on roadways intersecting through highways under his or her jurisdiction. Before the Director either installs or removes a stop sign under this division, he or she shall give notice, in writing, of that proposed action to the affected local authority at least 30 days before installing or removing the stop sign.

(B) Other streets or highways, or portions thereof, are hereby designated as through highways if they are within the municipality, if they have a continuous length of more than one mile between the limits of the street or highway or portion thereof, and if they have stop or yield signs or traffic-control signals at the entrances of the majority of intersecting streets or highways. For purposes of this section, the limits of the street or highway, or portion thereof, shall be the municipal corporation line, the physical terminus of the street or highway, or any point on the streets or highway at which vehicular traffic thereon is required by regulatory signs to stop or yield to traffic on the intersecting street, provided, that in residence districts, the municipality may by ordinance designate such street or highway, or portion thereof, not to be a through highway and thereafter the affected residence district shall be indicated by official traffic-control devices. Where two or more through highways designated under this division intersect and no traffic-control signal is in operation, stop signs or yield signs shall be erected at one or more entrances thereto by the Department or by local authorities having jurisdiction, except as otherwise provided in this section.

(C) The Department or local authorities having jurisdiction need not erect stop signs at intersections they find to be so constructed as to permit traffic to safely enter a through highway without coming to a stop. Signs shall be erected at such intersections indicating that the operator of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to or merge with all traffic proceeding on the through highway.

(D) Local authorities, with reference to highways under their jurisdiction, may designate additional through highways, and shall erect stop signs, yield signs, or traffic-control signals at all streets and highways intersecting such through highways, or may designate any intersection as a stop or yield intersection, and shall erect like signs at one or more entrances to the intersection.

(R.C. § 4511.65) (Rev. 1999)

§ 70.11 OFFICER MAY REMOVE IGNITION KEY.

A law enforcement officer may remove the ignition key left in the ignition switch of an unlocked and unattended motor vehicle parked on a street or highway. The officer removing the key shall place notification upon the vehicle detailing his or her name and badge number, the place where the key may be reclaimed, and the procedure for reclaiming the key. The key shall be returned to the owner of the motor vehicle upon presentation of proof of ownership.

(R.C. § 4549.05) (Rev. 1999)

§ 70.12 REMOVAL OF VEHICLES AFTER ACCIDENTS.

(A) If a motor vehicle accident occurs on any highway, public street, or other property open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel and if any motor vehicle, cargo, or personal property that has been damaged or spilled as a result of the motor vehicle accident is blocking the highway, street, or other property or is otherwise endangering public safety, the Chief of Police or the Chief of the Fire Department may, without consent of the owner but with the approval of the law enforcement agency conducting any investigation of the accident, remove the motor vehicle if the motor vehicle is unoccupied, cargo, or personal property from the portion of the highway, public street, or property ordinarily used for vehicular travel on the highway, public street, or other property open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel.

(B) (1) Except as provided in division (B)(2) or (B)(3) of this section, the Chief of Police, any police officer, the Chief of the Fire Department, and any firefighter who authorizes or participates in the removal of any unoccupied motor vehicle, cargo, or personal property as authorized by division (A) of this section is not liable in civil damages for any injury, death, or loss to person or property that results from the removal of that unoccupied motor vehicle, cargo, or personal property. Except as provided in division (B)(2) or (B)(3) of this section, if the

Chief of Police or Chief of the Fire Department authorizes, employs, or arranges to have a private tow truck operator or towing company remove any unoccupied motor vehicle, cargo, or personal property as authorized by division (A) of this section, that private tow truck operator or towing company is not liable in civil damages for any injury, death, or loss to person or property that results from the removal of that unoccupied motor vehicle, cargo, or personal property, and the Chief of Police or Chief of the Fire Department is not liable in civil damages for any injury, death, or loss to person or property that results from the private tow truck operator or towing company's removal of that unoccupied motor vehicle, cargo, or personal property.

(2) Division (B)(1) of this section does not apply to any person or entity involved in the removal of an unoccupied motor vehicle, cargo, or personal property pursuant to division (A) of this section if that removal causes or contributes to the release of a hazardous material or to structural damage to the roadway.

(3) Division (B)(1) of this section does not apply to a private tow truck operator or towing company that was not authorized, employed, or arranged by the Chief of Police or Chief of the Fire Department or to a private tow truck operator or towing company that was authorized, employed, or arranged by the Chief of Police or Chief of the Fire Department to perform the removal of the unoccupied motor vehicle, cargo, or personal property and the private tow truck operator or towing company performed the removal in a reckless or willful manner.

(C) As used in this section, *HAZARDOUS MATERIAL* has the same meaning as in R.C. § 2305.232. (R.C. § 4513.66) (Rev. 2010)

TRAFFIC-CONTROL DEVICES

§ 70.30 OBEYING TRAFFIC-CONTROL DEVICES.

(A) (1) No pedestrian or driver of a vehicle shall disobey the instructions of any traffic-control device placed in accordance with the provisions of this traffic code, unless at the time otherwise directed by a police officer.

(2) No provision of this traffic code for which signs are required shall be enforced against an alleged violator if, at the time and place of the alleged violation, an official sign is not in proper position and sufficiently legible to be seen by an ordinarily observant person. Whenever a particular section of this traffic code does not state that signs are required, that section shall be effective even though no signs are erected or in place. (R.C. § 4511.12(A))

(B) (1) Except as provided in division (C) of this section, any operator of a commercial motor vehicle, upon approaching a scale location established for the purpose of

determining the weight of the vehicle and its load, shall comply with any traffic control device or the order of a peace officer directing the vehicle to proceed to be weighed or otherwise inspected.

(2) Any operator of a commercial motor vehicle, upon bypassing a scale location in accordance with division (C) of this section, shall comply with an order of a peace officer to stop the vehicle to verify the use and operation of an electronic clearance device.

(C) Any operator of a commercial motor vehicle that is equipped with an electronic clearance device authorized by the Superintendent of the State Highway Patrol under R.C. § 4549.081 may bypass a scale location, regardless of the instruction of a traffic control device to enter the scale facility, if either of the following apply:

(1) The in-cab transponder displays a green light or other affirmative visual signal and also sounds an affirmative audible signal;

(2) Any other criterion established by the Superintendent of the State Highway Patrol is met.

(D) Any peace officer may order the operator of a commercial motor vehicle that bypasses a scale location to stop the vehicle to verify the use and operation of an electronic clearance device.

(E) As used in this section, **COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE** means any combination of vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating or an actual gross vehicle weight of more than 10,000 pounds if the vehicle is used in interstate or intrastate commerce to transport property and also means any vehicle that is transporting hazardous materials for which placarding is required pursuant to 49 C.F.R. parts 100 through 180.

(R.C. § 4511.121(A) - (C), (E))

(F) No person shall use an electronic clearance device if the device or its use is not in compliance with rules of the Superintendent of the State Highway Patrol.
(R.C. § 4549.081(B))

(G) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(R.C. § 4511.12(B))

(2) Whoever violates division (B) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or

pleaded guilty to a violation of division (B) of this section or any substantially equivalent state law or municipal ordinance, whoever violates division (B) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of division (B) of this section or any substantially equivalent state law or municipal ordinance, whoever violates division (B) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(R.C. § 4511.121(D))

(3) Whoever violates division (F) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree on a first offense and a misdemeanor of the third degree on each subsequent offense.

(R.C. § 4549.081(C)) (Rev. 2005)

Statutory reference:

Placing traffic-control devices on state highways, permission required, see R.C. § 4511.10

Traffic-control devices to conform to the state manual and specifications, see R.C. § 4511.11

Uniform system of traffic-control devices, see R.C. § 4511.09

§ 70.31 SIGNAL LIGHTS.

(A) Whenever traffic is controlled by traffic-control signals exhibiting different colored lights, or colored lighted arrows, successively one at a time or in combination, only the colors green, red, and yellow shall be used, except for special pedestrian signals carrying words or symbols, and these lights shall indicate and apply to drivers of vehicles and pedestrians as follows:

(1) *Green indication.*

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

(b) Vehicular traffic facing a green arrow signal, shown alone or in combination with another indication, may cautiously enter the intersection only to make the movement indicated by the arrow, or such other movement as is permitted by other indications shown at the same time. The vehicular traffic shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

(c) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian-control signal, as provided in R.C. § 4511.14 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, pedestrians facing any green signal, except when the sole green signal is a turn arrow, may proceed across the roadway within any marked or unmarked crosswalk.

(2) *Steady yellow indication.*

(a) Vehicular traffic facing a steady circular yellow or yellow arrow signal is thereby warned that the related green movement is being terminated or that a red indication will be exhibited immediately thereafter when vehicular traffic shall not enter the intersection.

(b) Pedestrians facing a steady circular yellow or yellow arrow signal, unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian-control signal as provided in R.C. § 4511.14 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, are thereby advised that there is insufficient time to cross the roadway before a red indication is shown, and no pedestrian shall then start to cross the roadway.

(3) *Steady red indication.*

(a) Vehicular traffic facing a steady red signal alone shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or if none, then before entering the intersection, and shall remain standing until an indication to proceed is shown except as provided in divisions (A)(3)(b) and (A)(3)(c) of this section.

(b) Unless a sign is in place prohibiting a right turn as provided in division (A)(3)(e) of this section, vehicular traffic facing a steady red signal may cautiously enter the intersection to make a right turn after stopping as required by division (A)(3)(a) of this section. Such vehicular traffic shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

(c) Unless a sign is in place prohibiting a left turn as provided in division (A)(3)(e) of this section, vehicular traffic facing a steady red signal on a one-way street that intersects another one-way street on which traffic moves to the left may cautiously enter the intersection to make a left turn into the one-way street after stopping as required by division (A)(3)(a) of this section, and yielding the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

(d) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian-control signal as provided in R.C. § 4511.14 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, pedestrians facing a steady red signal alone shall not enter the roadway.

(e) Local authorities may by ordinance, or the Director of Transportation on state highways may, prohibit a right or a left turn against a steady red signal at any intersection, which shall be effective when signs giving notice thereof are posted at the intersection.

(B) 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 sign or marking, the stop shall be made at the signal.

(R.C. § 4511.13) (Rev. 1999)

§ 70.32 SIGNALS OVER REVERSIBLE LANES.

When lane-use control signals are placed over individual lanes of a street or highway, these signals shall indicate and apply to drivers of vehicles as follows:

(A) *A steady (downward) green arrow.* Vehicular traffic may travel in any lane over which a green arrow signal is shown.

(B) *A steady yellow "X".* Vehicular traffic is warned to vacate in a safe manner any lane over which such signal is shown to avoid occupying that lane when a steady red "X" signal is shown.

(C) *A flashing yellow "X".* Vehicular traffic may use with proper caution any lane over which this signal is shown for only the purpose of making a left turn.

(D) *A steady red "X".* Vehicular traffic shall not enter or travel in any lane over which this signal is shown.
(R.C. § 4511.131) (Rev. 1999)

§ 70.33 AMBIGUOUS OR NON-WORKING TRAFFIC SIGNALS.

(A) The driver of a vehicle who approaches an intersection where traffic is controlled by traffic-control signals shall do all of the following, if the signal facing the driver either exhibits no colored lights or colored lighted arrows or exhibits a combination of such lights or arrows that fails to clearly indicate the assignment of right-of-way:

(1) Stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or, if none, stop before entering the intersection;

(2) Yield the right-of-way to all vehicles in the intersection or approaching on an intersecting road, if the vehicles will constitute an immediate hazard during the time the driver is moving across or within the intersection or junction of roadways;

(3) Exercise ordinary care while proceeding through the intersection.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth

degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.132) (Rev. 2004)

§ 70.34 PEDESTRIAN-CONTROL SIGNALS.

Whenever special pedestrian-control signals exhibiting the words “walk” or “don’t walk”, or the symbol of a walking person or an upraised palm are in place, these signals shall indicate the following instructions:

(A) *“Walk” or the symbol of a walking person.* Pedestrians facing this signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the operators of all vehicles.

(B) *“Don’t walk” or the symbol of an upraised palm.* No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal.

(C) *“Wait”.* Nothing in this section shall be construed to invalidate the continued use of pedestrian-control signals utilizing the word “wait” if those signals were installed prior to March 28, 1985. (R.C. § 4511.14) (Rev. 1999)

§ 70.35 FLASHING TRAFFIC SIGNALS.

(A) Whenever an illuminated flashing red or yellow traffic signal is used in a traffic signal or with a traffic sign, it shall require obedience as follows:

(1) *Flashing red stop signal.* Operators of vehicles shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering it, 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.* Operators of vehicles may proceed through the intersection or past the signal only with caution.

(B) This section shall not apply at railroad grade crossings. Conduct of drivers of vehicles approaching railroad grade crossings shall be governed by R.C. §§ 4511.61 and 4511.62, or substantially equivalent municipal ordinances. (R.C. § 4511.15) (Rev. 1999)

§ 70.36 UNAUTHORIZED SIGNS AND SIGNALS PROHIBITED.

(A) (1) No person shall place, maintain, or display upon or in view of any highway any unauthorized sign, signal, marking, or device which purports to be, is an imitation of, or resembles a traffic-control device or railroad sign or signal, or which attempts to direct the movement of traffic, or hides from view or interferes with the effectiveness of any traffic-control device or any railroad sign or signal, and no person shall place or maintain, nor shall any public authority permit, upon any highway any traffic sign or signal bearing thereon any commercial advertising. This section does not prohibit either the erection upon private property adjacent to highways of signs giving useful directional information and of a type that cannot be mistaken for traffic-control devices, or the erection upon private property of traffic-control devices by the owner of real property in accordance with R.C. §§ 4511.211 and 4511.432.

(2) Every prohibited sign, signal, marking, or device is a public nuisance, and the authority having jurisdiction over the highway may remove the same or cause it to be removed.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.16) (Rev. 2004)

§ 70.37 ALTERATION, DEFACEMENT, OR REMOVAL PROHIBITED.

(A) No person, without lawful authority, shall do any of the following:

(1) Knowingly move, deface, damage, destroy, or otherwise improperly tamper with any traffic-control device, any railroad sign or signal, or any inscription, shield, or insignia on the device, sign, or signal, or any part of the device, sign, or signal;

(2) Knowingly drive upon or over any freshly applied pavement marking material on the surface of a roadway while the marking material is in an undried condition, and is marked by flags, markers, signs, or other devices intended to protect it;

(3) Knowingly move, damage, destroy, or otherwise improperly tamper with a manhole cover.

(B) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates division (A)(1) or (A)(3) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. If a violation of division (A)(1) or (A)(3) of this section creates a risk of physical harm to any person, the offender is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. If a violation of division (A)(1) or (A)(3) of this section causes serious physical harm to property that is owned, leased, or controlled by a state or local authority, the offender is guilty of a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates division (A)(2) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates division (A)(2) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates division (A)(2) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.
(R.C. § 4511.17) (Rev. 2004)

§ 70.38 UNAUTHORIZED POSSESSION OR SALE OF DEVICES.

(A) As used in this section, **TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE** means any sign, traffic control signal or other device conforming to and placed or erected in accordance with the manual adopted under R.C. § 4511.09 by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction, for the purpose of regulating, warning or guiding traffic, including signs denoting the names of streets and highways, but does not mean any pavement marking.

(B) No individual shall buy or otherwise possess, or sell, a traffic control device, except when one of the following applies:

(1) In the course of the individual's employment by the state or a local authority for the express or implied purpose of manufacturing, providing, erecting, moving or removing such a traffic control device;

(2) In the course of the individual's employment by any manufacturer of traffic control devices other than a state or local authority;

(3) For the purpose of demonstrating the design and function of a traffic control device to state or local officials;

(4) When the traffic control device has been purchased from the state or a local authority at a sale of property that is no longer needed or is unfit for use; or

(5) When the traffic control device has been properly purchased from a manufacturer for use on private property and the person possessing the device has a sales

receipt for the device or other acknowledgment of sale issued by the manufacturer.

(C) This section does not preclude, and shall not be construed as precluding, prosecution for theft in violation of R.C. § 2913.02, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, or for receiving stolen property in violation of R.C. § 2913.51, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance.

(D) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.
(R.C. § 4511.18) (Rev. 2004)

§ 70.39 SIGNAL PREEMPTION DEVICES; PROHIBITIONS.

(A) (1) No person shall possess a portable signal preemption device.

(2) No person shall use a portable signal preemption device to affect the operation of a traffic-control device.

(B) Division (A)(1) of this section does not apply to any of the following persons and division (A)(2) of this section does not apply to any of the following persons when responding to an emergency call:

(1) A peace officer, as defined in R.C. § 109.17(A)(1), (A)(12), (A)(14), or (A)(19);

(2) A state highway patrol officer;

(3) A person while occupying a public safety vehicle as defined in R.C. § 4511.01(E)(1), (E)(3), or (E)(4).

(C) Whoever violates division (A)(1) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. Whoever violates division (A)(2) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(D) As used in this section, **PORTABLE SIGNAL PREEMPTION DEVICE** means a device that, if activated by a person, is capable of changing a traffic-control signal to green out of sequence.
(R.C. § 4511.031) (Rev. 2006)

§ 70.40 TRAFFIC LAW PHOTO-MONITORING DEVICES.

(A) As used in this section, **TRAFFIC LAW PHOTO-MONITORING DEVICE** means an electronic system consisting of a photographic, video, or electronic camera and a means of sensing the presence of a motor vehicle that automatically produces photographs, videotape, or digital images of the vehicle or its license plate.

(B) (1) The municipality shall not use traffic law photo-monitoring devices to enforce any traffic law until after it has erected signs on every highway that is not a freeway that is part of the state highway system and that enters the municipality. The signs shall inform inbound traffic that the municipality utilizes traffic law photo-monitoring devices to enforce traffic laws. The signs shall be erected within the first 300 feet of the boundary of the municipality or, if the signs cannot be located within the first 300 feet of the boundary of the municipality, as close to that distance as possible, provided that if a particular highway enters and exits the territory of the municipality multiple times, the municipality shall erect the signs as required by this division at the locations in each direction of travel where inbound traffic on the highway first enters the territory of the municipality and is not required to erect additional signs along such highway each time the highway reenters the territory of the municipality. The municipality is responsible for all costs associated with the erection, maintenance, and replacement, if necessary, of the signs. All signs erected under this division shall conform in size, color, location, and content to standards contained in the manual adopted by the Department of Transportation pursuant to R.C. § 4511.09 and shall remain in place for as long as the municipality utilizes traffic law photo-monitoring devices to enforce any traffic law. Any ticket, citation, or summons issued by or on behalf of the municipality for any traffic law violation based upon evidence gathered by a traffic law photo-monitoring device after March 12, 2009, but before the signs have been erected, is invalid; provided that no ticket, citation, or summons is invalid if the municipality is in substantial compliance with the requirement of this division to erect the signs.

(2) The municipality is deemed to be in substantial compliance with the requirement of division (B)(1) of this section to erect the advisory signs if the municipality does both of the following:

(a) First erects all signs as required by division (B)(1) of this section and subsequently maintains and replaces the signs as needed so that at all times at least 90% of the required signs are in place and functional;

(b) Annually documents and upon request certifies its compliance with division (B)(2)(a) of this section.

(C) If the municipality uses traffic law photo-monitoring devices to enforce any traffic law at an intersection where traffic is controlled by traffic control signals that exhibit different colored lights or colored lighted arrows, the municipality shall time the operation of the yellow lights and yellow arrows of those traffic control signals so that the steady yellow indication exceeds by one second the minimum duration for yellow indicators at similar intersections as established by the provisions of the manual adopted by the Department of Transportation under R.C. § 4511.09.

(R.C. § 4511.094) (Rev. 2009)

§ 70.99 PENALTY.

(A) Whoever is convicted of or pleads guilty to a misdemeanor or minor misdemeanor shall be sentenced in accordance with § 130.99(B) through (G).

(B) Whoever violates any provision of this traffic code for which no penalty otherwise is provided in the section violated is guilty of one of the following:

(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(2) or (B)(3) of this section, a minor misdemeanor;

(2) If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, a misdemeanor of the fourth degree;

(3) If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(R.C. § 4511.99) (Rev. 2004)

Cross-reference:

Imposing sentence for misdemeanor, see § 130.18

Multiple sentences, see § 130.19

Statutory reference:

Reimbursement for costs of confinement, see R.C. §§ 2929.36 et seq.

CHAPTER 71: LICENSING PROVISIONS

Section

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			§ 71.01 DISPLAY OF LICENSE PLATES OR VALIDATION STICKERS; REGISTRATION.
			(A) (1) No person who is the owner or operator of a motor vehicle shall fail to display in plain view on the front and rear of the motor vehicle the distinctive number and registration mark, including any county identification sticker and any validation sticker issued under R.C. §§ 4503.19 and 4503.191, furnished by the Director of Public Safety, except that a manufacturer of motor vehicles or dealer therein, the holder of an in-transit permit, and the owner or operator of a motorcycle, motorized bicycle, manufactured home, mobile home, trailer, or semitrailer shall display on the rear only. A motor vehicle that is issued two license plates shall display the validation sticker only on the rear license plate, except that a commercial tractor that does not receive an apportioned license plate under the international registration plan shall display the validation sticker on the front of the commercial tractor. An apportioned vehicle receiving an apportioned license plate under the international registration plan shall display the license plate only on the front of a commercial tractor and

on the rear of all other vehicles. All license plates shall be securely fastened so as not to swing, and shall not be covered by any material that obstructs its visibility.

(2) No person to whom a temporary license placard or windshield sticker has been issued for the use of a motor vehicle under R.C. § 4503.182, and no operator of that motor vehicle, shall fail to display the temporary license placard in plain view from the rear of the vehicle either in the rear window or on an external rear surface of the motor vehicle, or fail to display the windshield sticker in plain view on the rear window of the motor vehicle. No temporary license placard or windshield sticker shall be covered by any material that obstructs its visibility.
(R.C. § 4503.21(A))

(B) Except as otherwise provided by R.C. §§ 4503.103, 4503.173, 4503.41, 4503.43, and 4503.46, no person who is the owner or chauffeur of a motor vehicle operated or driven upon the public roads or highways shall fail to file annually the application for registration or to pay the tax therefor.
(R.C. § 4503.11(A))

(C) No person shall operate or drive upon the highways of this municipality a motor vehicle acquired from a former owner who has registered the motor vehicle, while the motor vehicle displays the distinctive number or identification mark assigned to it upon its original registration.
(R.C. § 4549.11(A)) (Rev. 2004)

(D) No person who is the owner of a motor vehicle and a resident of this state shall operate or drive the motor vehicle upon the highways of this municipality while it displays a distinctive number or identification mark issued by or under the authority of another state, without complying with the laws of this state relating to the registration and identification of motor vehicles.
(R.C. § 4549.12(A)) (Rev. 2004)

(E) (1) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
(R.C. § 4503.21(B)) (Rev. 2004)

(2) Whoever violates division (B) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.
(R.C. § 4503.11(D)) (Rev. 2004)

(3) Whoever violates division (C) of this section is guilty of operation of a motor vehicle bearing license plates or an identification mark issued to another, a minor misdemeanor on a first offense and a misdemeanor of the fourth degree on each subsequent offense.
(R.C. § 4549.11(B)) (Rev. 2004)

(4) Whoever violates division (D) of this section is guilty of illegal operation by a resident of this state of a motor vehicle bearing the distinctive number or

identification mark issued by a foreign jurisdiction, a minor misdemeanor.
(R.C. § 4549.12(B)) (Rev. 2010)

§ 71.02 IMPROPER USE OF NONCOMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE.

(A) No person shall use a motor vehicle registered as a noncommercial motor vehicle for other than the purposes set forth in R.C. § 4501.01.

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.
(R.C. § 4503.05) (Rev. 2004)

§ 71.03 OPERATING MOTOR VEHICLE ORDERED IMMOBILIZED; FORFEITURE.

(A) No person shall operate a motor vehicle or permit the operation of a motor vehicle upon any public or private property used by the public for vehicular travel or parking knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that the motor vehicle has been ordered immobilized pursuant to an immobilization order issued under R.C. § 4503.233.

(B) A motor vehicle that is operated by a person during a violation of division (A) of this section shall be criminally forfeited to the state in accordance with the procedures contained in R.C. § 4503.234.

(C) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree.
(R.C. § 4503.236) (Rev. 2004)

§ 71.04 OPERATION OR SALE WITHOUT CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

(A) No person shall do any of the following:

(1) Operate in this municipality a motor vehicle for which a certificate of title is required without having that certificate in accordance with R.C. Chapter 4505 or, if a physical certificate of title has not been issued for a motor vehicle, operate the motor vehicle in this state knowing that the ownership information relating to the vehicle has not been entered into the automated title processing system by a Clerk of a Court of Common Pleas;

(2) Display or display for sale or sell as a dealer or acting on behalf of a dealer, a motor vehicle without having obtained a manufacturer's or importer's certificate, a certificate of title, or an assignment of a certificate of title for it as provided in R.C. Chapter 4505;

(3) Fail to surrender any certificate of title or any certificate of registration or license plates upon

cancellation of the same by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles and notice of the cancellation as prescribed in R.C. Chapter 4505;

(4) Fail to surrender the certificate of title to a Clerk of a Court of Common Pleas as provided in R.C. Chapter 4505 in case of the destruction or dismantling or change of a motor vehicle in such respect that it is not the motor vehicle described in the certificate of title;

(5) Violate any rules adopted pursuant to R.C. Chapter 4505;

(6) Except as otherwise provided in R.C. Chapters 4505 and 4517, sell at wholesale a motor vehicle ownership of which is not evidenced by an Ohio certificate of title, or the current certificate of title issued for the motor vehicle, or the manufacturer's certificate of origin, and all title assignments that evidence the seller's ownership of the motor vehicle, and an odometer disclosure statement that complies with R.C. § 4505.06 and subchapter IV of the "Motor Vehicle Information and Cost Savings Act", 86 Stat. 961 (1972), 15 U.S.C. § 1981;

(7) Operate in this state a motor vehicle knowing that the certificate of title to the vehicle or ownership of the vehicle as otherwise reflected in the automated title processing system has been canceled.

(B) This section does not apply to persons engaged in the business of warehousing or transporting motor vehicles for the purpose of salvage disposition.

(C) Whoever violates this section shall be fined not more than \$200, imprisoned not more than 90 days, or both. (R.C. § 4505.18) (Rev. 2004)

§ 71.05 DISPLAY OF CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION.

(A) (1) The operator of a "commercial car", as defined in R.C. § 4501.01, when the commercial car is required to be registered under state law, shall, when operating the commercial car, trailer or semitrailer on the streets, roads, or highways of this municipality display inside or on the vehicle the certificate of registration for the commercial car, trailer or semitrailer provided for in R.C. § 4503.19, or shall carry the certificate on the operator's person and display it upon the demand of any peace officer.

(2) Every person operating a commercial car, trailer or semitrailer required to be registered under state law shall permit the inspection of the certificate of registration upon demand of any peace officer.

(B) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of a commercial car certificate of registration violation, a minor misdemeanor. (R.C. § 4549.18) (Rev. 2004)

§ 71.06 USE OF UNAUTHORIZED PLATES.

(A) No person shall operate or drive a motor vehicle upon the public roads and highways in this municipality if it displays a license plate or a distinctive number or identification mark that meets any of the following criteria:

(1) It is fictitious;

(2) It is a counterfeit or an unlawfully made copy of any distinctive number or identification mark;

(3) It belongs to another motor vehicle, provided that this section does not apply to a motor vehicle that is operated on the public roads and highways in this municipality when the motor vehicle displays license plates that originally were issued for a motor vehicle that previously was owned by the same person who owns the motor vehicle that is operated on the public roads and highways in this municipality during the 30-day period described in R.C. § 4503.12(A)(4).

(B) A person who fails to comply with the transfer of registration provisions of R.C. § 4503.12 and is charged with a violation of that section shall not be charged with a violation of this section.

(C) Whoever violates division (A)(1), (A)(2), or (A)(3) of this section is guilty of operating a motor vehicle bearing an invalid license plate or identification mark, a misdemeanor of the fourth degree on a first offense and a misdemeanor of the third degree on each subsequent offense. (R.C. § 4549.08) (Rev. 2004)

§ 71.07 OPERATING WITHOUT DEALER OR MANUFACTURER LICENSE PLATES.

(A) No person shall operate or cause to be operated upon a public road or highway a motor vehicle of a manufacturer or dealer unless the vehicle carries and displays two placards, except as provided in R.C. § 4503.21, issued by the Director of Public Safety that bear the registration number of its manufacturer or dealer.

(B) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of illegal operation of a manufacturer's or dealer's motor vehicle, a minor misdemeanor. (R.C. § 4549.10) (Rev. 2010)

DRIVER'S LICENSES

§ 71.20 PROHIBITED ACTS.

(A) No person shall do any of the following:

(1) Display or cause or permit to be displayed, or possess any identification card, driver's or commercial

driver's license, temporary instruction permit, or commercial driver's license temporary instruction permit knowing the same to be fictitious, or to have been canceled, suspended, or altered;

(2) Lend to a person not entitled thereto, or knowingly permit a person not entitled thereto to use any identification card, driver's or commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit or commercial driver's license temporary instruction permit issued to the person so lending or permitting the use thereof;

(3) Display, or represent as one's own, any identification card, driver's or commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, or commercial driver's license temporary instruction permit not issued to the person so displaying the same;

(4) Fail to surrender to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, upon the Registrar's demand, any identification card, driver's or commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, or commercial driver's license temporary instruction permit that has been suspended or canceled;

(5) In any application for an identification card, driver's or commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, or commercial driver's license temporary instruction permit or any renewal or duplicate thereof, knowingly conceal a material fact or present any physician's statement required under R.C. § 4507.08 or 4507.081 when knowing the same to be false or fictitious.

(B) Whoever violates any division of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.
(R.C. § 4507.30) (Rev. 2005)

Statutory reference:

Use of license to violate liquor laws; suspension; procedures, see R.C. § 4510.33

§ 71.21 PERMITTING MINOR TO OPERATE VEHICLE PROHIBITED; TEMPORARY INSTRUCTION PERMIT; PROBATIONARY LICENSE.

(A) No person shall cause or knowingly permit any minor to drive a motor vehicle upon a highway as an operator, unless the minor has first obtained a license or permit to drive a motor vehicle under R.C. Chapter 4507.
(R.C. § 4507.31(A))

(B) (1) No holder of a temporary instruction permit issued under R.C. § 4507.05(A) shall operate a motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking in violation of the conditions established under R.C. § 4507.05(A).

(2) (a) Except as provided in division (B)(2)(b) of this section, no holder of a temporary instruction permit that is issued under R.C. § 4507.05(A)

and that is issued on or after July 1, 1998, and who has not attained the age of 18 years, shall operate a motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m.

(b) The holder of a temporary instruction permit issued under R.C. § 4507.05(A) on or after July 1, 1998, who has not attained the age of 18 years, may operate a motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m. if, at the time of such operation, the holder is accompanied by the holder's parent, guardian, or custodian, and the parent, guardian, or custodian holds a current valid driver's or commercial driver's license issued by this state, is actually occupying a seat beside the permit holder, and does not have a prohibited concentration of alcohol in the whole blood, blood serum or plasma, breath, or urine as provided in R.C. § 4511.19(A).

(R.C. § 4507.05(F)) (Rev. 2008)

(C) (1) (a) No holder of a probationary driver's license who has not attained the age of 17 years shall operate a motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for vehicular travel or parking between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m. unless the holder is accompanied by the holder's parent or guardian.

(b) No holder of a probationary driver's license who has attained the age of 17 years but has not attained the age of 18 years shall operate a motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. unless the holder is accompanied by the holder's parent or guardian.

(2) (a) Subject to division (E)(1)(a) of this section, division (C)(1)(a) of this section does not apply to the holder of a probationary driver's license who is traveling to or from work between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m. and has in the holder's immediate possession written documentation from the holder's employer.

(b) Division (C)(1)(b) of this section does not apply to the holder of a probationary driver's license who is traveling to or from work between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. and has in the holder's immediate possession written documentation from the holder's employer.

(3) An employer is not liable in damages in a civil action for any injury, death, or loss to person or property that allegedly arises from, or is related to, the fact that the employer provided an employee who is the holder of a probationary driver's license with the written documentation described in division (C)(2) of this section. The Registrar of Motor Vehicles has available at no cost a form to serve as the written documentation described in division (C)(2) of this section, and employers and holders of probationary driver's licenses may utilize that form or may

choose to utilize any other written documentation to meet the requirements of that division.

(4) No holder of a probationary driver's license who is less than 17 years of age shall operate a motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking with more than one person who is not a family member occupying the vehicle unless the probationary license holder is accompanied by the probationary license holder's parent, guardian, or custodian.

(D) It is an affirmative defense to a violation of division (C)(1)(a) or (C)(1)(b) of this section if, at the time of the violation, the holder of the probationary driver's license was traveling to or from an official function sponsored by the school the holder attends, or an emergency existed that required the holder to operate a motor vehicle in violation of division (C)(1)(a) or (C)(1)(b) of this section, or the holder was an emancipated minor.

(E) (1) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (E)(2) of this section, if a person is issued a probationary driver's license prior to attaining the age of 17 years and the person pleads guilty to, is convicted of, or is adjudicated in juvenile court of having committed a moving violation during the six-month period commencing on the date on which the person is issued the probationary driver's license, the holder must be accompanied by the holder's parent or guardian whenever the holder is operating a motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking during whichever of the following time periods applies:

1. If, on the date the holder of the probationary driver's license pleads guilty to, is convicted of, or is adjudicated in juvenile court of having committed the moving violation, the holder has not attained the age of 16.5 years, during the six-month period commencing on that date;

2. If, on the date the holder pleads guilty to, is convicted of, or is adjudicated in juvenile court of having committed the moving violation, the holder has attained the age of 16.5 years but not 17 years, until the person attains the age of 17 years.

(b) If the holder of a probationary driver's license commits a moving violation during the six-month period after the person is issued the probationary driver's license and before the person attains the age of 17 years and on the date the person pleads guilty to, is convicted of, or is adjudicated in juvenile court of having committed the moving violation the person has attained the age of 17 years, or if the person commits the moving violation during the six-month period after the person is issued the probationary driver's license and after the person attains the age of 17 years, the holder is not subject to the restriction described in divisions (E)(1)(a)1. and (E)(1)(a)2. of this section unless

the court or juvenile court imposes such a restriction upon the holder.

(2) Any person who is subject to the operating restrictions established under division (E)(1) of this section as a result of a first moving violation may petition the court for occupational or educational driving privileges without being accompanied by the holder's parent or guardian during the period of time specified in that division. The court may grant the person such driving privileges if the court finds reasonable cause to believe that the restrictions established in division (E)(1) will seriously affect the person's ability to continue in employment or educational training or will cause undue hardship on the license holder or a family member of the license holder. In granting the driving privileges, the court shall specify the purposes, times, and places of the privileges and shall issue the person appropriate forms setting forth the privileges granted. Occupational or educational driving privileges under this division shall not be granted to the same person more than once. If a person is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or is adjudicated in juvenile court of having committed a second or subsequent moving violation, any driving privileges previously granted under this division are terminated upon the subsequent conviction, plea, or adjudication.

(3) No person shall violate division (E)(1)(a) of this section.

(F) No holder of a probationary license shall operate a motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking unless the total number of occupants of the vehicle does not exceed the total number of occupant restraining devices originally installed in the motor vehicle by its manufacturer, and each occupant of the vehicle is wearing all of the available elements of a properly adjusted occupant restraining device.

(G) A restricted license may be issued to a person who is 14 or 15 years of age under proof of hardship satisfactory to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles.

(H) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, no law enforcement officer shall cause the operator of a motor vehicle being operated on any street or highway to stop the motor vehicle for the sole purpose of determining whether each occupant of the motor vehicle is wearing all of the available elements of a properly adjusted occupant restraining device as required by division (F) of this section, or for the sole purpose of issuing a ticket, citation or summons if that requirement has been or is being violated, or for causing the arrest of or commencing a prosecution of a person for a violation of that requirement.

(I) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, no law enforcement officer shall cause the operator of a motor vehicle being operated on any street or highway to stop the motor vehicle for the sole purpose of determining whether a violation of division (C)(1)(a) or (C)(1)(b) of this

section has been or is being committed or for the sole purpose of issuing a ticket, citation or summons for such a violation or for causing the arrest or commencing a prosecution of a person for such a violation.

(J) As used in this section:

FAMILY MEMBER. A family member of a probationary license holder includes any of the following:

- (a) A spouse;
- (b) A child or stepchild;
- (c) A parent, stepparent, grandparent, or parent-in-law;
- (d) An aunt or uncle;
- (e) A sibling, whether of the whole or half blood or by adoption, a brother-in-law, or a sister-in-law;
- (f) A son or daughter of the probationary license holder's stepparent if the stepparent has not adopted the probationary license holder;
- (g) An eligible adult, as defined in R.C. § 4507.05.

MOVING VIOLATION. Means any violation of any statute or ordinance that regulates the operation of vehicles on the highways or streets. The term does not include a violation of R.C. § 4513.263 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, or a violation of any statute or ordinance regulating pedestrians or the parking of vehicles, vehicle size or load limitations, vehicle fitness requirements, or vehicle registration.

OCCUPANT RESTRAINING DEVICE. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 4513.263.
(R.C. § 4507.071(B) - (I)) (Rev. 2010)

(K) (1) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.
(R.C. § 4507.31(B)) (Rev. 2004)

(2) Whoever violates divisions (B), (C)(1), (C)(4), (E)(3), or (F) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
(R.C. §§ 4507.05(I), 4507.071(J)) (Rev. 2010)

§ 71.22 LICENSE REQUIRED AS DRIVER OR COMMERCIAL DRIVER ON PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PROPERTY; NONRESIDENT EXEMPTION.

(A) (1) (a) No person shall permit the operation of a motor vehicle upon any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking, knowing the operator does not have a valid driver's license

issued to the operator by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles under R.C. Chapter 4507 or a valid commercial driver's license issued under R.C. Chapter 4506. Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this division is guilty of an unclassified misdemeanor. When the offense is an unclassified misdemeanor, the offender shall be sentenced pursuant to § 130.18, § 130.99 or R.C. §§ 2929.21 to 2929.28, except that the offender shall not be sentenced to a jail term; the offender shall not be sentenced to a community residential sanction pursuant to § 130.99(E) or R.C. § 2929.26; notwithstanding § 130.99(G)(1)(b)1. and R.C. § 2929.28(A)(2)(a), the offender may be fined up to \$1,000; and, notwithstanding § 130.99(F)(1)(c) and R.C. § 2929.27(A)(3), the offender may be ordered pursuant to § 130.99(F)(3) or R.C. § 2929.27(C) to serve a term of community service of up to 500 hours. The failure of an offender to complete a term of community service imposed by the court may be punished as indirect criminal contempt under R.C. § 2705.02(A) that may be filed in the underlying case.

(b) If, within three years of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of this section or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the offense is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(2) No person shall receive a driver's license, or a motorcycle operator's endorsement of a driver's or commercial driver's license, unless and until the person surrenders to the Registrar all valid licenses issued to the person by another jurisdiction recognized by this state. The Registrar shall report the surrender of a license to the issuing authority, together with information that a license is now issued in this state. The Registrar shall destroy any such license that is not returned to the issuing authority. No person shall be permitted to have more than one valid license at any time.
(R.C. § 4507.02(A)) (Rev. 2012)

(B) (1) No person shall be required to obtain a driver's or commercial driver's license for the purpose of temporarily driving, operating, drawing, moving, or propelling a road roller or road machinery upon a street or highway.

(2) No person shall be required to obtain a driver's or commercial driver's license for the purpose of temporarily driving, operating, drawing, moving, or propelling any agricultural tractor or implement of husbandry upon a street or highway at a speed of 25 miles per hour or less.

(3) No person shall drive, operate, draw, move, or propel any agricultural tractor or implement of husbandry upon a street or highway at a speed greater than 25 miles per hour unless the person has a current, valid driver's or commercial driver's license.

(4) No person having a valid driver's or commercial driver's license shall be required to have a

motorcycle operator's endorsement to operate a motorcycle having three wheels with a motor of not more than 50 cubic centimeters piston displacement.

(5) Every person on active duty in the military or naval forces of the United States, when furnished with a driver's permit and when operating an official motor vehicle in connection with such duty, is exempt from the license requirements of R.C. Chapters 4506 and 4507. Every person on active duty in the military or naval forces of the United States or in service with the peace corps, volunteers in service to America, or the foreign service of the United States, is exempt from the license requirements of such sections for the period of the person's active duty or service and for six months thereafter, provided such person was a licensee under such sections at the time the person commenced the person's active duty or service. This section does not prevent such a person or the person's spouse or dependent from making an application, as provided in R.C. § 4507.10(C), for the renewal of a driver's license or motorcycle operator's endorsement or as provided in R.C. § 4506.14 for the renewal of a commercial driver's license during the period of the person's active duty or service.

(6) Whoever violates division (B)(3) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. (R.C. § 4507.03) (Rev. 2010)

(C) Nonresidents, permitted to drive upon the highways of their own state, may operate any motor vehicle upon any highway in this state without examination or license under R.C. §§ 4507.01 through 4507.39, inclusive, upon condition that such nonresident may be required at any time or place to prove lawful possession or their right to operate such motor vehicle, and to establish proper identity. (R.C. § 4507.04) (Rev. 2004)

§ 71.23 EMPLOYMENT OF A MINOR TO OPERATE A TAXICAB PROHIBITED.

(A) Notwithstanding the definition of "chauffeur" in R.C. § 4501.01, no person shall employ any minor for the purpose of operating a taxicab.

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. (R.C. § 4507.321) (Rev. 2004)

§ 71.24 RESTRICTION AGAINST OWNER LENDING VEHICLE FOR USE OF ANOTHER.

(A) No person shall permit a motor vehicle owned by the person or under the person's control to be driven by another if any of the following apply:

(1) The offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the other person does not have a valid driver's or commercial driver's license or permit or valid nonresident driving privileges;

(2) The offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the other person's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit or nonresident operating privileges have been suspended or canceled under R.C. Chapter 4510 or any other provision of the Ohio Revised Code.

(3) The offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the other person's act of driving the motor vehicle would violate any prohibition contained in R.C. Chapter 4509.

(4) The offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the other person's act of driving would violate R.C. § 4511.19 or any substantially equivalent municipal ordinance.

(5) The offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the vehicle is the subject of an immobilization waiver order issued under R.C. § 4503.235 and the other person is prohibited from operating the vehicle under that order.

(B) Without limiting or precluding the consideration of any other evidence in determining whether a violation of division (A)(1), (A)(2), (A)(3), (A)(4), or (A)(5) of this section has occurred, it shall be prima facie evidence that the offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the operator of the motor vehicle owned by the offender or under the offender's control is in a category described in division (A)(1), (A)(2), (A)(3), (A)(4), or (A)(5) of this section if any of the following applies:

(1) Regarding an operator allegedly in the category described in division (A)(1), (A)(3), or (A)(5) of this section, the offender and the operator of the motor vehicle reside in the same household and are related by consanguinity or affinity.

(2) Regarding an operator allegedly in the category described in division (A)(2) of this section, the offender and the operator of the motor vehicle reside in the same household, and the offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the operator has been charged with or convicted of any violation of law or ordinance, or has committed any other act or omission, that would or could result in the suspension or cancellation of the operator's license, permit, or privilege.

(3) Regarding an operator allegedly in the category described in division (A)(4) of this section, the offender and the operator of the motor vehicle occupied the motor vehicle together at the time of the offense.

(C) Whoever violates this section is guilty of wrongful entrustment of a motor vehicle, and shall be punished as provided in divisions (C) to (H) of this section.

(1) Except as provided in division (C)(2) of this section, whoever violates division (A)(1), (A)(2), or (A)(3) of this section is guilty of an unclassified misdemeanor. When the offense is an unclassified misdemeanor, the

offender shall be sentenced pursuant to § 130.18, § 130.99 or R.C. §§ 2929.21 to 2929.28, except that the offender shall not be sentenced to a jail term; the offender shall not be sentenced to a community residential sanction pursuant to § 130.99(E) or R.C. § 2929.26; notwithstanding § 130.99(G)(1)(b)1. and R.C. § 2929.28(A)(2)(a), the offender may be fined up to \$1,000; and, notwithstanding § 130.99(F)(1)(c) and R.C. § 2929.27(A)(3), the offender may be ordered pursuant to § 130.99(F)(3) or R.C. § 2929.27(C) to serve a term of community service of up to 500 hours. The failure of an offender to complete a term of community service imposed by the court may be punished as indirect criminal contempt under R.C. § 2705.02(A) that may be filed in the underlying case.

(2) (a) If, within three years of a violation of division (A)(1), (A)(2), or (A)(3) of this section, the offender previously has pleaded guilty to or been convicted of two or more violations of division (A)(1), (A)(2), or (A)(3) of this section, R.C. § 4511.203(A)(1), (A)(2), or (A)(3), or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the offender is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(b) Whoever violates division (A)(4) or (A)(5) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(3) For any violation of this section, in addition to the penalties imposed under this Code or R.C. Chapter 2929, the court may impose a class seven suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege from the range specified in R.C. § 4510.02(A)(7), and, if the vehicle involved in the offense is registered in the name of the offender, the court may order one of the following:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(3)(b) or (C)(3)(c) of this section, the court may order, for 30 days, the immobilization of the vehicle involved in the offense and the impoundment of that vehicle's license plates. If issued, the order shall be issued and enforced under R.C. § 4503.233.

(b) If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one violation of this section, R.C. § 4511.203, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the court may order, for 60 days, the immobilization of the vehicle involved in the offense and the impoundment of that vehicle's license plates. If issued, the order shall be issued and enforced under R.C. § 4503.233.

(c) If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of this section, R.C. § 4511.203, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the court may order the criminal forfeiture to the state of the vehicle involved in the offense. If issued, the order shall be issued and enforced under R.C. § 4503.234.

(4) If title to a motor vehicle that is subject to an order for criminal forfeiture under division (C)(3)(c) of this section is assigned or transferred and R.C. § 4503.234(B)(2) or (B)(3) applies, in addition to or independent of any other penalty established by law, the court may fine the offender the value of the vehicle as determined by publications of the National Automobile Dealers Association. The proceeds from any fine imposed under this division shall be distributed in accordance with R.C. § 4503.234(C)(2).

(D) If a court orders the criminal forfeiture of a vehicle under division (C)(3)(a) or (C)(3)(b) of this section, the court shall not release the vehicle from the immobilization before the termination of the period of immobilization ordered unless the court is presented with current proof of financial responsibility with respect to that vehicle.

(E) If a court orders the criminal forfeiture of a vehicle under division (C)(3)(c) of this section, upon receipt of the order from the court, neither the Registrar of Motor Vehicles nor any deputy registrar shall accept any application for the registration or transfer of registration of any motor vehicle owned or leased by the person named in the order. The period of denial shall be five years after the date the order is issued, unless, during that five-year period, the court with jurisdiction of the offense that resulted in the order terminates the forfeiture and notifies the Registrar of the termination. If the court terminates the forfeiture and notifies the Registrar, the Registrar shall take all necessary measures to permit the person to register a vehicle owned or leased by the person or to transfer the registration of the vehicle.

(F) This section does not apply to motor vehicle rental dealers or motor vehicle leasing dealers, as defined in R.C. § 4549.65.

(G) Evidence of a conviction of, plea of guilty to, or adjudication as a delinquent child for a violation of this section shall not be admissible as evidence in any civil action that involves the offender or delinquent child who is the subject of the conviction, plea, or adjudication and that arises from the wrongful entrustment of a motor vehicle.

(H) For purposes of this section, a vehicle is owned by a person if, at the time of a violation of this section, the vehicle is registered in the person's name.
(R.C. § 4511.203) (Rev. 2012)

§ 71.25 SUSPENSION OF DRIVER'S LICENSE; LICENSE SUSPENDED BY COURT OF RECORD.

(A) Except as otherwise provided in R.C. § 4510.07 or in any other provision of the Ohio Revised Code, whenever an offender is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of any provision of this code that is substantially equivalent to a provision of the Ohio Revised Code, and a court is permitted or required to suspend a person's driver's

or commercial driver's license or permit for a violation of that provision, a court, in addition to any other penalties authorized by law, may suspend the offender's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit or non resident operating privileges for the period of time the court determines appropriate, but the period of suspension imposed for the violation of the provision of this code shall not exceed the period of suspension that is permitted or required to be imposed for the violation of the provision of the Ohio Revised Code to which the provision of this code is substantially equivalent.

(R.C. § 4510.05) (Rev. 2004)

(B) Whenever a person is found guilty under the laws of this state or any ordinance of any political subdivision of this state, of operating a motor vehicle in violation of any such law or ordinance relating to reckless operation, the trial court of any court of record, in addition to or independent of all other penalties provided by law, may impose a class five suspension of the offender's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit or nonresident operating privilege from the range specified in R.C. § 4510.02(A)(5).

(C) Suspension of a commercial driver's license under this section shall be concurrent with any period of suspension disqualification under R.C. § 3123.58 or 4506.16. No person who is disqualified for life from holding a commercial driver's license under R.C. § 4506.16 shall be issued a driver's license under R.C. Chapter 4507 during the period for which the commercial driver's license was suspended under this section, and no person whose commercial driver's license is suspended under this section shall be issued a driver's license under R.C. Chapter 4507 during the period of the suspension.

(R.C. § 4510.15) (Rev. 2005)

§ 71.26 DISPLAY OF LICENSE.

(A) The operator of a motor vehicle shall display the operator's driver's license, or furnish satisfactory proof that the operator has a driver's license, upon demand of any peace officer or of any person damaged or injured in any collision in which the licensee may be involved. When a demand is properly made, and the operator has the operator's driver's license on or about the operator's person, the operator shall not refuse to display the license. A person's failure to furnish satisfactory evidence that the person is licensed under R.C. Chapter 4507 when the person does not have the person's license on or about the person's person shall be prima facie evidence of the person's not having obtained a driver's license.

(B) (1) Except as provided in division (B)(2) of this section, whoever violates this section is guilty of an unclassified misdemeanor. When the offense is an unclassified misdemeanor, the offender shall be sentenced pursuant to § 130.18, § 130.99 or R.C. §§ 2929.21 to 2929.28, except that the offender shall not be sentenced to a jail term; the offender shall not be sentenced to a

community residential sanction pursuant to § 130.99(E) or R.C. § 2929.26; notwithstanding § 130.99(G)(1)(b)1. and R.C. § 2929.28(A)(2)(a), the offender may be fined up to \$1,000; and notwithstanding § 130.99(F)(1)(c) and R.C. § 2929.27(A)(3), the offender may be ordered pursuant to § 130.99(F)(3) or R.C. § 2929.27(C) to serve a term of community service of up to 500 hours. The failure of an offender to complete a term of community service imposed by the court may be punished as indirect criminal contempt under R.C. § 2705.02(A) that may be filed in the underlying case.

(2) If, within three years of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of this section, R.C. § 4507.35, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the offense is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(R.C. § 4507.35) (Rev. 2012)

§ 71.27 PROHIBITION AGAINST FALSE STATEMENTS.

(A) No person shall knowingly make a false statement to any matter or thing required by the provisions of this traffic code.

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(R.C. § 4507.36) (Rev. 2004)

§ 71.28 DRIVING UNDER SUSPENSION OR IN VIOLATION OF LICENSE RESTRICTION; DRIVING UNDER SUSPENSION FOR FAILURE TO APPEAR IN COURT, FAILURE TO PAY A FINE OR FAILURE TO PAY CHILD SUPPORT.

(A) *Driving under suspension or in violation of license restriction.*

(1) Except as provided in division (A)(2) of this section, no person whose driver's or commercial driver's license or permit or nonresident operating privilege has been suspended under any provision of the Ohio Revised Code, other than R.C. Chapter 4509, or under any applicable law in any other jurisdiction in which the person's license or permit was issued shall operate any motor vehicle upon the public roads and highways or upon any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking within this municipality during the period of suspension unless the person is granted limited driving privileges and is operating the vehicle in accordance with the terms of the limited driving privileges.

(2) No person shall operate any motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking in this municipality in violation of any restriction of the person's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit imposed under R.C. § 4506.10(D) or 4507.14.

(3) Upon the request or motion of the prosecuting authority, a non-certified copy of the law enforcement automated data system report or a non-certified copy of a record of the Registrar of Motor Vehicles that shows the name, date of birth, and social security number of a person charged with a violation of division (A)(1) or (A)(2) of this section may be admitted into evidence as prima facie evidence that the license of the person was under suspension at the time of the alleged violation of division (A)(1) of this section or the person operated a motor vehicle in violation of a restriction at the time of the alleged violation of division (A)(2) of this section. The person charged with a violation of division (A)(1) or (A)(2) of this section may offer evidence to rebut this prima facie evidence.

(4) (a) Whoever violates division (A)(1) or (A)(2) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. The court may impose upon the offender a class seven suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege from the range specified in R.C. § 4510.02(A)(7).

(b) 1. Except as provided in division (A)(4)(b)2. or (A)(4)(b)3. of this section, the court, in addition to any other penalty that it imposes on the offender and if the vehicle is registered in the offender's name and if, within three years of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one violation of this section, R.C. § 4510.11, 4510.111 or 4510.16, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the court, in addition to or independent of any other sentence that it imposes upon the offender, may order the immobilization of the vehicle involved in the offense for 30 days and the impoundment of that vehicle's license plates for 30 days in accordance with R.C. § 4503.233.

2. If the vehicle is registered in the offender's name and if, within three years of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two violations of this section, or any combination of two violations of this section, R.C. § 4510.11, 4510.111 or 4510.16, or of a substantially similar municipal ordinance, the court, in addition to any other sentence that it imposes on the offender, may order the immobilization of the vehicle involved in the offense for 60 days and the impoundment of that vehicle's license plates for 60 days in accordance with R.C. § 4503.233.

3. If the vehicle is registered in the offender's name and if, within three years of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or more violations of this section, or any combination of three or more violations of this section or R.C. § 4510.11, 4510.111 or 4510.16, or of a substantially similar municipal ordinance, the court, in addition to any other sentence that it imposes on the offender, may order the criminal forfeiture of the vehicle involved in the offense to the state.

(5) Any order for immobilization and impoundment under this section shall be issued and enforced under R.C. §§ 4503.233 and 4507.02, as applicable. The court shall not release a vehicle from immobilization ordered under this section unless the court is presented with current proof of financial responsibility with respect to that vehicle.

(6) Any order of criminal forfeiture under this section shall be issued and enforced under R.C. § 4503.234. Upon receipt of the copy of the order from the court, neither the Registrar of Motor Vehicles nor a deputy registrar shall accept any application for the registration or transfer of registration of any motor vehicle owned or leased by the person named in the declaration of forfeiture. The period of registration denial shall be five years after the date of the order, unless, during that period, the court having jurisdiction of the offense that led to the order terminates the forfeiture and notifies the registrar of the termination. The registrar then shall take necessary measures to permit the person to register a vehicle owned or leased by the person or to transfer registration of the vehicle.

(7) The offender shall provide the court with proof of financial responsibility as defined in R.C. § 4509.01. If the offender fails to provide that proof of financial responsibility, then, in addition to any other penalties provided by law, the court may order restitution pursuant to § 130.99(G) or R.C. § 2929.28 in an amount not exceeding \$5,000 for any economic loss arising from an accident or collision that was the direct and proximate result of the offender's operation of the vehicle before, during, or after committing the offense for which the offender is sentenced under this section.
(R.C. § 4510.11) (Rev. 2012)

(B) *Driving under suspension for failure to appear in court, failure to pay a fine or failure to pay child support.*

(1) No person shall operate any motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking in this municipality whose driver's or commercial driver's license has been suspended pursuant to R.C. § 4510.22 for failing to appear in court or to pay a fine, resulting in license forfeiture.

(2) No person shall operate any motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking in this municipality whose driver's or commercial driver's license has been suspended pursuant to R.C. § 3123.58 for being in default in payment of child support.

(3) Upon the request or motion of the prosecuting authority, a non-certified copy of the law enforcement automated data system report or a non-certified copy of a record of the Registrar of Motor Vehicles that shows the name, date of birth, and social security number of a person charged with a violation of division (B)(1) or (B)(2) of this section may be admitted into evidence as prima facie evidence that the license of the person was under suspension

at the time of the alleged violation of division (B)(1) or (B)(2) of this section. The person charged with a violation of division (B)(1) or (B)(2) of this section may offer evidence to rebut this prima facie evidence.

(4) Whoever violates division (B)(1) or (B)(2) of this section is guilty of driving under suspension and shall be punished as provided in division (B)(4) of this section.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(4)(b) of this section, the offense is an unclassified misdemeanor. The offender shall be sentenced pursuant to § 130.18, § 130.99 or R.C. §§ 2929.21 to 2929.28, except that the offender shall not be sentenced to a jail term; the offender shall not be sentenced to a community residential sanction pursuant to § 130.99(E) or R.C. § 2929.26; notwithstanding § 130.99(G)(1)(b)1. and R.C. § 2929.28(A)(2)(a), the offender may be fined up to \$1,000; and, notwithstanding § 130.99(F)(1)(c) and R.C. § 2929.27(A)(3), the offender may be ordered pursuant to § 130.99(F)(3) or R.C. § 2929.27(C) to serve a term of community service of up to 500 hours. The failure of an offender to complete a term of community service imposed by the court may be punished as indirect criminal contempt under R.C. § 2705.02(A) that may be filed in the underlying case.

(b) If, within three years of the offense, the offender previously was convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of division (B)(1) or (B)(2) of this section, or any combination of two or more violations of division (B)(1) or (B)(2) of this section, R.C. § 4510.11, 4510.111 or 4510.16, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the offense is a misdemeanor of the first degree. The offender shall provide the court with proof of financial responsibility as defined in R.C. § 4509.01. If the offender fails to provide that proof of financial responsibility, then, in addition to any penalties provided by law, the court may order restitution pursuant to § 130.99(G) or R.C. § 2929.28 in an amount not exceeding \$5,000 for any economic loss arising from an accident or collision that was the direct and proximate result of the offender's operation of the vehicle before, during, or after committing the offense for which the offender is sentenced under this division (B).

(c) In all cases, the court may impose a class seven suspension of the offender's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit or nonresident operating privilege from the range of time specified in R.C. § 4507.02(A)(7).

(d) 1. In all cases, if the vehicle is registered in the offender's name and if, within three years of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one violation of this section, R.C. § 4510.11, 4510.111 or 4510.16, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the court, in addition to any other sentence that it imposes upon the offender, may order the immobilization of the vehicle involved in the offense for 30 days and the impoundment of that vehicle's license plates for 20 days in accordance with R.C. § 4503.233.

2. In all cases, if the vehicle is registered in the offender's name and if, within three years of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two violations of this section, or any combination of two violations of this section, R.C. § 4510.11, 4510.111 or 4510.16, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the court, in addition to any other sentence that it imposes upon the offender, may order the immobilization of the vehicle involved in the offense for 60 days and the impoundment of that vehicle's license plates for 60 days in accordance with R.C. § 4503.233.

3. In all cases, if the vehicle is registered in the offender's name and if, within three years of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or more violations of this section, or any combination of three or more violations of this section, R.C. § 4510.11, 4510.111 or 4510.16, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the court, in addition to any other sentence that it imposes upon the offender, may order the criminal forfeiture of the vehicle involved in the offense to the state.

(5) An order for immobilization and impoundment under this section shall be issued and enforced under R.C. §§ 4503.233 and 4507.02, as applicable. The court shall not release a motor vehicle from immobilization ordered under this section unless the court is presented with current proof of financial responsibility with respect to that motor vehicle.

(6) An order for criminal forfeiture under this section shall be issued and enforced under R.C. § 4503.234. Upon receipt of a copy of the order from the court, neither the Registrar of Motor Vehicles nor a deputy registrar shall accept any application for the registration or transfer of registration of any motor vehicle owned or leased by the person named in the declaration of forfeiture. The period of registration denial shall be five years after the date of the order unless, during that period, the court having jurisdiction of the offense that led to the order terminates the forfeiture and notifies the registrar of the termination. The registrar then shall take the necessary measures to permit the person to register a vehicle owned or leased by the person or to transfer registration of the vehicle.
(R.C. § 4510.111) (Rev. 2012)

(C) *Repeat traffic offender; point system suspension.* Any person whose driver's or commercial driver's license or permit or nonresident operating privileges are suspended as a repeat traffic offender under R.C. § 4510.037 and who, during the suspension, operates any motor vehicle upon any public roads and highways is guilty of driving under a twelve-point suspension, a misdemeanor of the first degree. The court shall sentence the offender to a minimum term of three days in jail. No court shall suspend the first three days of jail time imposed pursuant to this division.
(R.C. § 4510.037(J)) (Rev. 2012)

(D) It is an affirmative defense to any prosecution brought under division (A) of this section that the alleged

offender drove under suspension, without a valid permit or driver's or commercial driver's license, or in violation of a restriction because of a substantial emergency, and because no other person was reasonably available to drive in response to the emergency.
(R.C. § 4510.04) (Rev. 2012)

§ 71.29 OPERATING MOTOR VEHICLE OR MOTORCYCLE WITHOUT VALID LICENSE.

(A) (1) No person, except those expressly exempted under R.C. §§ 4507.03, 4507.04, and 4507.05, shall operate any motor vehicle upon a public road or highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking in this municipality unless the person has a valid driver's license issued under R.C. Chapter 4507 or a commercial driver's license issued under R.C. Chapter 4506.

(2) No person, except a person expressly exempted under R.C. §§ 4507.03, 4507.04, and 4507.05, shall operate any motorcycle upon a public road or highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking in this municipality unless the person has a valid license as a motorcycle operator that was issued upon application by the registrar of motor vehicles under R.C. Chapter 4507. The license shall be in the form of an endorsement, as determined by the registrar, upon a driver's or commercial driver's license, if the person has a valid license to operate a motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle, or in the form of a restricted license as provided in R.C. § 4507.14, if the person does not have a valid license to operate a motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle.

(B) Upon the request or motion of the prosecuting authority, a non-certified copy of the law enforcement automated data system report or a non-certified copy of a record of the registrar of motor vehicles that shows the name, date of birth, and social security number of a person charged with a violation of division (A)(1) or (A)(2) of this section may be admitted into evidence as prima facie evidence that the person did not have either a valid driver's or commercial driver's license at the time of the alleged violation of division (A)(1) of this section or a valid license as a motorcycle operator either in the form of an endorsement upon a driver's or commercial driver's license or a restricted license at the time of the alleged violation of division (A)(2) of this section. The person charged with a violation of division (A)(1) or (A)(2) of this section may offer evidence to rebut this prima facie evidence.

(C) Whoever violates this section is guilty of operating a motor vehicle or motorcycle without a valid license and shall be punished as follows:

(1) If the trier of fact finds that the offender never has held a valid driver's or commercial driver's license issued by this state or any other jurisdiction, or, in

a case involving the operation of a motorcycle by the offender, if the offender has never held a valid license as a motorcycle operator, either in the form of an endorsement upon a driver's or commercial driver's license or in the form of a restricted license, except as otherwise provided in this division, the offense is an unclassified misdemeanor. When the offense is an unclassified misdemeanor, the offender shall be sentenced pursuant to § 130.18, § 130.99 or R.C. §§ 2929.21 to 2929.28, except that the offender shall not be sentenced to a jail term; the offender shall not be sentenced to a community residential sanction pursuant to § 130.99(E) or R.C. § 2929.26; notwithstanding § 130.99(G)(1)(b)1. and R.C. § 2929.28(A)(2)(a), the offender may be fined up to \$1,000; and, notwithstanding § 130.99(F)(1)(c) and R.C. § 2929.27(A)(3), the offender may be ordered pursuant to § 130.99(F)(3) or R.C. § 2929.27(C) to serve a term of community service of up to 500 hours. The failure of an offender to complete a term of community service imposed by the court may be punished as indirect criminal contempt under R.C. § 2705.02(A) that may be filed in the underlying case. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any violation of this section or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the offense is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(2) If the offender's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit or, in a case involving the operation of a motorcycle by the offender, the offender's driver's or commercial driver's license bearing the motorcycle endorsement or the offender's restricted license was expired at the time of the offense, except as otherwise provided in this division, the offense is a minor misdemeanor. If within three years of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of this section or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the offense is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(D) The court shall not impose a license suspension for a first violation of this section or if more than three years have passed since the offender's last violation of R.C. § 4510.12, this section, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance.

(E) If the offender is sentenced under division (C)(2) of this section, if within three years of the offense the offender previously was convicted of or pleaded guilty to one or more violations of R.C. § 4510.12, this section, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, and if the offender's license was expired for more than six months at the time of the offense, the court may impose a class seven suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege from the range specified in R.C. § 4510.02(A)(7).
(R.C. § 4510.12) (Rev. 2012)

§ 71.30 DRIVING UNDER OVI SUSPENSION.

(A) No person whose driver's or commercial driver's license or permit or nonresident operating privilege has been suspended under R.C. § 4511.19, 4511.191, or 4511.196 or under R.C. § 4510.07 for a conviction of a violation of a municipal OVI ordinance shall operate any motor vehicle upon the public roads or highways within this municipality during the period of the suspension.

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of driving under OVI suspension. The court shall sentence the offender under R.C. Chapter 2929, subject to the differences authorized or required by this section.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(2) or (B)(3) of this section, driving under OVI suspension is a misdemeanor of the first degree. The court shall sentence the offender to all of the following:

(a) A mandatory jail term of three consecutive days. The three-day term shall be imposed, unless, subject to division (C) of this section, the court instead imposes a sentence of not less than 30 consecutive days of house arrest with electronic monitoring. A period of house arrest with electronic monitoring imposed under this division shall not exceed six months. If the court imposes a mandatory three-day jail term under this division, the court may impose a jail term in addition to that term, provided that in no case shall the cumulative jail term imposed for the offense exceed six months;

(b) A fine of not less than \$250 and not more than \$1,000;

(c) A license suspension under division (E) of this section;

(d) If the vehicle the offender was operating at the time of the offense is registered in the offender's name, immobilization for 30 days of the offender's vehicle and impoundment for 30 days of the identification license plates of that vehicle. The order for immobilization and impoundment shall be issued and enforced in accordance with R.C. § 4503.233.

(2) If, within six years of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one violation of this section or one equivalent offense, driving under OVI suspension is a misdemeanor of the first degree. The court shall sentence the offender to all of the following:

(a) A mandatory jail term of 10 consecutive days. Notwithstanding the jail terms provided in R.C. §§ 2929.21 through 2929.28, the court may sentence the offender to a longer jail term of not more than one year. The 10-day mandatory jail term shall be imposed unless, subject to division (C) of this section, the court instead imposes a sentence of not less than 90 consecutive days of

house arrest with electronic monitoring. The period of house arrest with electronic monitoring shall not exceed one year;

(b) Notwithstanding the fines provided for in R.C. Chapter 2929, a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$2,500;

(c) A license suspension under division (E) of this section;

(d) If the vehicle the offender was operating at the time of the offense is registered in the offender's name, immobilization of the offender's vehicle for 60 days and the impoundment for 60 days of the identification license plates of that vehicle. The order for immobilization and impoundment shall be issued and enforced in accordance with R.C. § 4503.233.

(3) If, within six years of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of this section or two or more equivalent offenses, driving under OVI suspension is a misdemeanor. The court shall sentence the offender to all of the following:

(a) A mandatory jail term of 30 consecutive days. Notwithstanding the jail terms provided in R.C. §§ 2929.21 through 2929.28, the court may sentence the offender to a longer jail term of not more than one year. The court shall not sentence the offender to a term of house arrest with electronic monitoring in lieu of the mandatory portion of the jail term;

(b) Notwithstanding the fines set forth in R.C. Chapter 2929, a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$2,500;

(c) A license suspension under division (E) of this section;

(d) If the vehicle the offender was operating at the time of the offense is registered in the offender's name, criminal forfeiture to the state of the offender's vehicle. The order of criminal forfeiture shall be issued and enforced in accordance with R.C. § 4503.234. If title to a motor vehicle that is subject to an order for criminal forfeiture under this division is assigned or transferred and R.C. § 4503.234(B)(2) or (B)(3) applies, the court may fine the offender the value of the vehicle as determined by publications of the National Automobile Dealers Association. The proceeds from any fine so imposed shall be distributed in accordance with division R.C. § 4503.234(C)(2).

(C) (1) No court shall impose an alternative sentence of house arrest with electronic monitoring under division (B)(1) or (B)(2) of this section unless, within 60 days of the date of sentencing, the court issues a written finding on the record that, due to the unavailability of space at the jail where the offender is required to serve the jail term

imposed, the offender will not be able to begin serving that term within the 60-day period following the date of sentencing.

(2) An offender sentenced under this section to a period of house arrest with electronic monitoring shall be permitted work release during that period.

(D) Fifty percent of any fine imposed by a court under division (B)(1), (B)(2), or (B)(3) of this section shall be deposited into the municipal Indigent Drivers Alcohol Treatment Fund under the control of that court, as created by the municipality pursuant to R.C. § 4511.191(H).

(E) In addition to or independent of all other penalties provided by law or ordinance, the trial judge of any court of record or the mayor of a mayor's court shall impose on an offender who is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of this section a class seven suspension of the offender's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit or nonresident operating privilege from the range specified in R.C. § 4510.02(A)(7).

(1) When permitted as specified in R.C. § 4510.021, if the court grants limited driving privileges during a suspension imposed under this section, the privileges shall be granted on the additional condition that the offender must display restricted license plates, issued under R.C. § 4503.231, on the vehicle driven subject to the privileges, except as provided in R.C. § 4503.231(B).

(2) A suspension of a commercial driver's license under this section shall be concurrent with any period of suspension or disqualification under R.C. § 3123.58 or R.C. § 4506.16. No person who is disqualified for life from holding a commercial driver's license under R.C. § 4506.16 shall be issued a driver's license under R.C. Chapter 4507 during the period for which the commercial driver's license was suspended under this section, and no person whose commercial driver's license is suspended under this section shall be issued a driver's license under R.C. Chapter 4507 during the period of the suspension.

(F) The offender shall provide the court with proof of financial responsibility as defined in R.C. § 4509.01. If the offender fails to provide that proof of financial responsibility, then, in addition to any other penalties provided by law, the court may order restitution pursuant to § 130.99(G) or R.C. § 2929.28 in an amount not exceeding \$5,000 for any economic loss arising from an accident or collision that was the direct and proximate result of the offender's operation of the vehicle before, during, or after committing the offense that is a misdemeanor of the first degree under this section for which the offender is sentenced.

(G) As used in this section:

ELECTRONIC MONITORING. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 2929.01.

EQUIVALENT OFFENSE. Means any of the following:

(a) A violation of a municipal ordinance, law of another state, or law of the United States that is substantially equivalent to division (A) of this section;

(b) A violation of a former law of this state that was substantially equivalent to division (A) of this section.

JAIL. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 2929.01.

MANDATORY JAIL TERM. Means the mandatory term in jail of 3, 10, or 30 consecutive days that must be imposed under division (B)(1), (B)(2), or (B)(3) of this section upon an offender convicted of a violation of division (A) of this section and in relation to which all of the following apply:

(a) Except as specifically authorized under this section, the term must be served in a jail.

(b) Except as specifically authorized under this section, the term cannot be suspended, reduced, or otherwise modified pursuant to any provision of the Ohio Revised Code.

(R.C. § 4510.14) (Rev. 2012)

(G) It is an affirmative defense to any prosecution brought under this section that the alleged offender drove under suspension, without a valid permit or driver's or commercial driver's license, or in violation of a restriction because of a substantial emergency, and because no other person was reasonably available to drive in response to the emergency.

(R.C. § 4510.04) (Rev. 2004)

Statutory reference:

Immobilization of vehicle; impoundment of license plates; criminal forfeiture of vehicle, see R.C. § 4510.161

§ 71.31 DRIVING UNDER FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY LAW SUSPENSION OR CANCELLATION; DRIVING UNDER A NONPAYMENT OF JUDGMENT SUSPENSION.

(A) No person, whose driver's or commercial driver's license or temporary instruction permit or nonresident's operating privilege has been suspended or canceled pursuant to R.C. Chapter 4509, shall operate any motor vehicle within this municipality, or knowingly permit any motor vehicle owned by the person to be operated by another person in the municipality, during the period of the suspension or cancellation, except as specifically authorized by R.C. Chapter 4509. No person shall operate a motor vehicle within this municipality, or knowingly permit any motor vehicle owned by the person to be operated by another person in the municipality, during the period in which the

person is required by R.C. § 4509.45 to file and maintain proof of financial responsibility for a violation of R.C. § 4509.101, unless proof of financial responsibility is maintained with respect to that vehicle.

(B) No person shall operate any motor vehicle upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking in this municipality if the person's driver's or commercial driver's license or temporary instruction permit or nonresident operating privilege has been suspended pursuant to R.C. § 4509.37 or 4509.40 for nonpayment of a judgment.

(C) Upon the request or motion of the prosecuting authority, a non-certified copy of the law enforcement automated data system report or a non-certified copy of a record of the registrar of motor vehicles that shows the name, date of birth, and social security number of a person charged with a violation of division (A) or (B) of this section may be admitted into evidence as prima facie evidence that the license of the person was under either a financial responsibility law suspension at the time of the alleged violation of division (A) of this section or a nonpayment of judgment suspension at the time of the alleged violation of division (B) of this section. The person charged with a violation of division (A) or (B) of this section may offer evidence to rebut this prima facie evidence.

(D) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of driving under financial responsibility law suspension or cancellation and shall be punished as provided in divisions (D) to (I) of this section. Whoever violates division (B) of this section is guilty of driving under a nonpayment of judgment suspension and shall be punished as provided in divisions (D) to (I) of this section.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this division (D)(2) of this section, the offense is an unclassified misdemeanor. When the offense is an unclassified misdemeanor, the offender shall be sentenced pursuant to § 130.18, § 130.99 or R.C. §§ 2929.21 to 2929.28, except that the offender shall not be sentenced to a jail term; the offender shall not be sentenced to a community residential sanction pursuant to § 130.99(E) or R.C. § 2929.26; notwithstanding § 130.99(G)(1)(b)1. and R.C. § 2929.28 (A)(2)(a), the offender may be fined up to \$1,000; and, notwithstanding § 130.99(F)(1)(c) and R.C. § 2929.27 (A)(3), the offender may be ordered pursuant to § 130.99 (F)(3) or R.C. § 2929.27(C) to serve a term of community service of up to 500 hours. The failure of an offender to complete a term of community service imposed by the court may be punished as indirect criminal contempt under R.C. § 2705.02(A) that may be filed in the underlying case.

(2) If, within three years of the offense, the offender previously was convicted of or pleaded guilty to two or more violations of this section, or any combination of two violations of this section, R.C. § 4510.11, 4510.111 or 4510.16, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the offense is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(E) The offender shall provide the court with proof of financial responsibility as defined in R.C. § 4509.01. If the offender fails to provide that proof of financial responsibility, then, in addition to any other penalties provided by law, the court may order restitution pursuant to § 130.99(G) or R.C. § 2929.28 in an amount not exceeding \$5,000 for any economic loss arising from an accident or collision that was the direct and proximate result of the offender's operation of the vehicle before, during, or after committing the offense for which the offender is sentenced under this section.

(F) The court may impose a class seven suspension of the offender's driver's or commercial driver's license or permit or nonresident operating privilege from the range of time specified in R.C. § 4510.02(A)(7).

(G) (1) If the vehicle is registered in the offender's name and if, within three years of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one violation of this section, R.C. § 4510.11, 4510.111 or 4510.16, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the court, in addition to or independent of any other sentence that it imposes upon the offender, may order the immobilization for 30 days of the vehicle involved in the offense and the impoundment for 30 days of the license plates of that vehicle in accordance with R.C. § 4503.233.

(2) If the vehicle is registered in the offender's name and if, within three years of the offense, the offender has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to two violations of this section, R.C. § 4510.11, 4510.111 or 4510.16, or any combination of two violations of this section, R.C. § 4510.11, 4510.111 or 4510.16, or a substantially similar municipal ordinance, the court, in addition to or independent of any other sentence that it imposes on the offender, may order the immobilization for 60 days of the vehicle involved in the offense and the impoundment for 60 days of the license plates of that vehicle in accordance with R.C. § 4503.233.

(3) If the vehicle is registered in the offender's name and if, within three years of the offense, the offender has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or more violations of this section, R.C. § 4510.11, 4510.111 or 4510.16, or any combination of three or more violations of this section, R.C. § 4510.11, 4510.111 or 4510.16, or a substantially similar municipal ordinance, the court, in addition to or independent of any other sentence that it imposes upon the offender, may order the criminal forfeiture to the state of the vehicle involved in the offense. If title to a motor vehicle that is subject to an order for criminal forfeiture under this division is assigned or transferred and R.C. § 4503.234(B)(2) or (B)(3) applies, in addition to or independent of any other penalty established by law, the court may fine the offender the value of the vehicle as determined by publications of the National Automobile Dealers Association. The proceeds from any fine so imposed shall be distributed in accordance with R.C. § 4503.234 (C)(2).

(H) Any order for immobilization and impoundment under this section shall be issued and enforced in accordance with R.C. §§ 4503.233 and 4507.02, as applicable. The court shall not release a vehicle from immobilization ordered under this section unless the court is presented with current proof of financial responsibility with respect to that vehicle.

(I) An order for criminal forfeiture under this section shall be issued and enforced under R.C. § 4503.234. Upon receipt of a copy of the order from the court, neither the Registrar of Motor Vehicles nor a deputy registrar shall accept any application for the registration or transfer of registration of any motor vehicle owned or leased by the person named in the declaration of forfeiture. The period of registration denial shall be five years after the date of the order unless, during that period, the court having jurisdiction of the offense that led to the order terminates the forfeiture and notifies the registrar of the termination. The registrar then shall take the necessary measures to permit the person to register a vehicle owned or leased by the person or to transfer registration of the vehicle.
(R.C. § 4510.16) (Rev. 2012)

(J) (1) It is an affirmative defense to any prosecution brought under this section that the alleged offender drove under suspension, without a valid permit or driver's or commercial driver's license, or in violation of a restriction because of a substantial emergency, and because no other person was reasonably available to drive in response to the emergency.

(2) It is an affirmative defense to any prosecution brought under this section that the order of suspension resulted from the failure of the alleged offender to respond to a financial responsibility random verification request under R.C. § 4509.101(A)(3)(c) and that, at the time of the initial financial responsibility random verification request, the alleged offender was in compliance with R.C. § 4509.101(A)(1) as shown by proof of financial responsibility that was in effect at the time of that request.
(R.C. § 4510.04) (Rev. 2004)

Statutory reference:

Immobilization of vehicle; impoundment of license plates; criminal forfeiture of vehicle, see R.C. § 4510.161

§ 71.32 FAILURE TO REINSTATE LICENSE.

(A) No person whose driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, or nonresident's operating privilege has been suspended shall operate any motor vehicle upon a public road or highway or any public or private property after the suspension has expired unless the person has complied with all license reinstatement requirements imposed by the court, the bureau of motor vehicles, or another provision of the Ohio Revised Code.

(B) Upon the request or motion of the prosecuting authority, a non-certified copy of the law enforcement automated data system report or a non-certified copy of a record of the registrar of motor vehicles that shows the name, date of birth, and social security number of a person charged with a violation of division (A) of this section may be admitted into evidence as prima facie evidence that the license of the person had not been reinstated by the person at the time of the alleged violation of division (A) of this section. The person charged with a violation of division (A) of this section may offer evidence to rebut this prima facie evidence.

(C) Whoever violates this section is guilty of failure to reinstate a license, and shall be punished as follows:

(1) Except as provided in division (C)(2) of this section, whoever violates this section is guilty of an unclassified misdemeanor. When the offense is an unclassified misdemeanor, the offender shall be sentenced pursuant to § 130.18, § 130.99 or R.C. §§ 2929.21 to 2929.28, except that the offender shall not be sentenced to a jail term; the offender shall not be sentenced to a community residential sanction pursuant to § 130.99(E) or R.C. § 2929.26; notwithstanding § 130.99(G)(1)(b)1. and R.C. § 2929.28(A)(2)(a), the offender may be fined up to \$1,000; and, notwithstanding § 130.99(F)(1)(c) and R.C. § 2929.27(A)(3), the offender may be ordered pursuant to § 130.99(F)(3) or R.C. § 2929.27(C) to serve a term of community service of up to 500 hours. The failure of an offender to complete a term of community service imposed by the court may be punished as indirect criminal contempt under R.C. § 2705.02(A) that may be filed in the underlying case.

(2) If, within three years of a violation of division (A) of this section, the offender previously has pleaded guilty to or been convicted of two or more violations of this section, R.C. § 4510.21 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the offender is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(3) In all cases, the court may impose upon the offender a class seven suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary driver's license, or nonresident operating privilege from the range specified in R.C. § 4510.02(A)(7).
(R.C. § 4510.21) (Rev. 2012)

(D) It is an affirmative defense to any prosecution brought under this section that the alleged offender drove under suspension, without a valid permit or driver's or commercial driver's license, or in violation of a restriction because of a substantial emergency, and because no other person was reasonably available to drive in response to the emergency.
(R.C. § 4510.04) (Rev. 2004)

COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSES**§ 71.45 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purpose of this subchapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION. The concentration of alcohol in a person's blood, breath or urine. When expressed as a percentage, it means grams of alcohol per the following: 100 milliliters of whole blood, blood serum, or blood plasma; 210 liters of breath; or 100 milliliters of urine.

COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE. A license issued in accordance with R.C. Chapter 4506 that authorizes an individual to drive a commercial motor vehicle.

COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE INFORMATION SYSTEM. The information system established pursuant to the requirements of the "Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986", 100 Stat. 3207-171, 49 U.S.C. App. 2701.

COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE. Except when used in R.C. § 4506.25, any motor vehicle designed or used to transport persons or property that meets any of the following qualifications:

(1) Any combination of vehicles with a combined gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 pounds or more, provided that the gross vehicle weight rating of the vehicle or vehicles being towed is in excess of 10,000 pounds;

(2) Any single vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 pounds or more, or any such vehicle towing a vehicle having a gross vehicle weight rating that is not in excess of 10,000 pounds;

(3) Any single vehicle or combination of vehicles that is not a Class A or Class B vehicle, but is designed to transport 16 or more passengers including the driver;

(4) Any school bus with a gross vehicle weight rating of less than 26,001 pounds that is designed to transport fewer than 16 passengers including the driver;

(5) Is transporting hazardous materials for which placarding is required under 49 C.F.R. part 172, subpart F, as amended; or

(6) Any single vehicle or combination of vehicles that is designed to be operated and to travel on a public street or highway and is considered by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to be a commercial motor vehicle, including but not limited to a motorized

crane, a vehicle whose function is to pump cement, a rig for drilling wells, and a portable crane.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE. Includes all of the following:

(1) Any substance classified as a controlled substance under the "Controlled Substances Act", 80 Stat. 1242 (1970), 21 U.S.C. § 802(6), as amended;

(2) Any substance included in Schedules I through V of 21 C.F.R. part 1308, as amended;

(3) Any drug of abuse.

CONVICTION. An unvacated adjudication of guilt or a determination that a person has violated or failed to comply with the law in a court of original jurisdiction or an authorized administrative tribunal, an unvacated forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure the person's appearance in court, a plea of guilty or nolo contendere accepted by the court, the payment of a fine or court cost, or violation of a condition of release without bail, regardless of whether or not the penalty is rebated, suspended or probated.

DISQUALIFICATION. Means any of the following:

(1) The suspension, revocation, or cancellation of a person's privileges to operate a commercial motor vehicle;

(2) Any withdrawal of a person's privileges to operate a commercial motor vehicle as the result of a violation of state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control other than parking, vehicle weight, or vehicle defect violations;

(3) A determination by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration that a person is not qualified to operate a commercial motor vehicle under 49 C.F.R. § 391.

DRIVE. To drive, operate or be in physical control of a motor vehicle.

DRIVER. Any person who drives, operates or is in physical control of a commercial motor vehicle or is required to have a commercial driver's license.

DRIVER'S LICENSE. A license issued by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles that authorizes an individual to drive.

DRUG OF ABUSE. Any controlled substance, dangerous drug as defined in R.C. § 4729.01, or over-the-counter medication that, when taken in quantities exceeding the recommended dosage, can result in impairment of judgment or reflexes.

ELIGIBLE UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT. A village, township, or county that has a population of not

more than 3,000 persons according to the most recent federal census.

EMPLOYER. Any person, including the federal government, any state, and a political subdivision of any state, that owns or leases a commercial motor vehicle or assigns a person to drive such a motor vehicle.

ENDORSEMENT. An authorization on a person's commercial driver's license that is required to permit the person to operate a specified type of commercial motor vehicle.

FARM TRUCK. A truck controlled and operated by a farmer for use in the transportation to or from a farm, for a distance of not more than 150 miles, of products of the farm, including livestock and its products, poultry and its products, floricultural and horticultural products, and in the transportation to the farm, from a distance of not more than 150 miles, of supplies for the farm, including tile, fence and every other thing or commodity used in agricultural, floricultural, horticultural, livestock, and poultry production, and livestock, poultry, and other animals and things used for breeding, feeding, or other purposes connected with the operation of the farm, when the truck is operated in accordance with this definition and is not used in the operations of a motor transportation company or private motor carrier.

FATALITY. The death of a person as the result of a motor vehicle accident occurring not more than 365 days prior to the date of death.

FELONY. Any offense under federal or state law that is punishable by death or imprisonment for a term exceeding one year and includes any offense specifically classified as a felony under the law of this state, regardless of the penalty that may be imposed.

FOREIGN JURISDICTION. Any jurisdiction other than a state.

GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RATING. The value specified by the manufacturer as the maximum loaded weight of a single or a combination vehicle. The gross vehicle weight rating of a combination vehicle is the gross vehicle weight rating of the power unit plus the gross vehicle weight rating of each towed unit.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Any material that has been designated as hazardous under 49 U.S.C. § 5103 and is required to be placarded under 49 C.F.R. part 172, subpart F or any quantity of a material listed as a select agent or toxin in 42 C.F.R. part 73, as amended.

IMMINENT HAZARD. The existence of a condition that presents a substantial likelihood that death, serious illness, severe personal injury, or a substantial endangerment to health, property, or the environment may occur before the reasonably foreseeable completion date of

a formal proceeding begun to lessen the risk of death, illness, injury, or endangerment.

MOTOR VEHICLE. A vehicle, machine, tractor, trailer, or semitrailer propelled or drawn by mechanical power used on highways, except that such term does not include a vehicle, machine, tractor, trailer, or semitrailer operated exclusively on a rail.

OUT-OF-SERVICE ORDER. A declaration by an authorized enforcement officer of a federal, state, local, Canadian, or Mexican jurisdiction declaring that the driver, commercial motor vehicle, or commercial motor carrier operation is out of service as defined in 49 C.F.R. § 390.5.

PEACE OFFICER. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 2935.01

PORTABLE TANK. A liquid or gaseous packaging designed primarily to be loaded onto or temporarily attached to a vehicle and equipped with skids, mountings, or accessories to facilitate handling of the tank by mechanical means.

PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLE. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 4511.01(E)(1) and (E)(3).

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE. Includes every vehicle that is defined as a recreational vehicle in R.C. § 4501.01 and is used exclusively for purposes other than engaging in business for profit.

RESIDENCE. Any person's residence determined in accordance with standards prescribed in the rules adopted by the Registrar.

SCHOOL BUS. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 4511.01.

SERIOUS TRAFFIC VIOLATION. A conviction arising from a single charge of operating a commercial motor vehicle in violation of any provision of R.C. § 4506.03 or a conviction arising from the operation of any motor vehicle that involves any of the following:

(1) A single charge of any speed in excess of the posted speed limit by 15 miles per hour or more;

(2) Violations of R.C. § 4511.20 or R.C. § 4511.201 or any substantially equivalent ordinance or resolution, or of any substantially equivalent law of another state or political subdivision of another state;

(3) Violation of a law of this state or an ordinance or resolution relating to traffic control, other than a parking violation, or of any substantially equivalent law of another state or political subdivision of another state, that results in a fatal accident;

(4) Violation of R.C. § 4506.03 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance or county or

township resolution, or of any substantially equivalent law of another state or political subdivision of another state, that involves the operation of a commercial motor vehicle without a valid commercial driver's license with the proper class or endorsement for the specific vehicle group being operated or for the passengers or type of cargo being transported;

(5) Violation of R.C. § 4506.03 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance or county or township resolution, or of any substantially equivalent law of another state or political subdivision of another state, that involves the operation of a commercial motor vehicle without a valid commercial driver's license being in the person's possession;

(6) Violation of R.C. § 4511.33 or R.C. § 4511.34, or any municipal ordinance or county or township resolution substantially equivalent to either of those sections, or any substantially equivalent law of another state or political subdivision of another state;

(7) Violation of any other law of this state or an ordinance or resolution relating to traffic control, other than a parking violation, that is determined to be a serious traffic violation by the United States Secretary of Transportation and the Ohio Director of Public Safety designates as such by rule.

STATE. A state of the United States and includes the District of Columbia.

TANK VEHICLE. Any commercial motor vehicle that is designed to transport any liquid and has a maximum capacity greater than 119 gallons or is designed to transport gaseous materials and has a water capacity greater than 1,000 pounds within a tank that is either permanently or temporarily attached to the vehicle or its chassis. The term does not include any of the following:

(1) Any portable tank having a rated capacity of less than 1,000 gallons;

(2) Tanks used exclusively as a fuel tank for the motor vehicle to which it is attached;

(3) An empty storage container tank that is not designed for transportation and that is readily distinguishable from a transportation tank;

(4) Ready-mix concrete mixers.

TESTER. Means a person or entity acting pursuant to a valid agreement entered into pursuant to R.C. § 4506.09(B).

UNITED STATES. Means the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

VEHICLE. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 4511.01.
(R.C. § 4506.01) (Rev. 2006)

§ 71.46 USE OF ACTUAL GROSS WEIGHT IN LIEU OF RATING.

For purposes of this subchapter, the actual gross weight of a vehicle or combination of vehicles may be used in lieu of a gross vehicle weight rating to determine whether a vehicle or combination of vehicles qualifies as a commercial motor vehicle if the gross vehicle weight rating specified by the manufacturer for the vehicle or combination of vehicles is not determinable, or if the manufacturer of the vehicle has not specified a gross vehicle weight rating.
(R.C. § 4506.011) (Rev. 2006)

§ 71.47 PROHIBITED ACTS.

(A) No person shall do any of the following:

(1) Drive a commercial motor vehicle while having in the person's possession or otherwise under the person's control more than one valid driver's license issued by this state, any other state, or by a foreign jurisdiction;

(2) Drive a commercial motor vehicle on a highway in this municipality in violation of an out-of-service order while the person's driving privilege is suspended, revoked, or cancelled, or while the person is subject to disqualification;

(3) Drive a motor vehicle on a highway in the municipality under the authority of a commercial driver's license issued by another state or a foreign jurisdiction, after having been a resident of this state for 30 days or longer;

(4) Knowingly give false information in any application or certification required by R.C. § 4506.07.

(B) The municipality shall give every conviction occurring out of this state and notice of which was received by the state Department of Public Safety after December 31, 1989, full faith and credit and treat it for sanctioning purposes under this chapter as though the conviction had occurred in this state.
(R.C. § 4506.04(A), (B))

(C) No person shall drive any commercial motor vehicle for which an endorsement is required under R.C. § 4506.12 unless the proper endorsement appears on the person's commercial driver's license.
(R.C. § 4506.12(E))

(D) (1) Whoever violates division (A)(1), (A)(2) or (A)(3) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(2) Whoever violates division (A)(4) of this section is guilty of falsification, a misdemeanor of the first degree. In addition, the provisions of R.C. § 4507.19 apply. (R.C. § 4506.04(C))

(3) Whoever violates division (C) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. (R.C. § 4506.12(F)) (Rev. 2005)

§ 71.48 PREREQUISITES TO OPERATION OF COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE.

(A) Except as provided in divisions (B) or (C) of this section, the following shall apply:

(1) No person shall drive a commercial motor vehicle on a highway in this municipality unless the person holds, and has in the person's possession, a valid commercial driver's license with proper endorsements for the motor vehicle being driven, issued by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, a valid examiner's commercial driver's permit issued under R.C. § 4506.13, a valid restricted commercial driver's license and waiver for farm-related service industries issued under R.C. § 4506.24, or a valid commercial driver's license temporary instruction permit issued by the Registrar and is accompanied by an authorized state driver's license examiner or tester or a person who has been issued and has in the person's immediate possession a current, valid commercial driver's license with proper endorsements for the motor vehicle being driven.

(2) No person shall be issued a commercial driver's license until the person surrenders to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles all valid licenses issued to the person by another jurisdiction recognized by this state. The Registrar shall report the surrender of a license to the issuing authority, together with information that a license is now issued in this state. The Registrar shall destroy any such license that is not returned to the issuing authority.

(3) No person who has been a resident of this state for 30 days or longer shall drive a commercial motor vehicle under the authority of a commercial driver's license issued in another jurisdiction.

(B) Nothing in division (A) of this section applies to any qualified person when engaged in the operation of any of the following:

- (1) A farm truck;
- (2) Fire equipment for a fire department, volunteer or nonvolunteer fire company, fire district, or joint fire district;
- (3) A public safety vehicle used to provide transportation or emergency medical service for ill or injured persons;
- (4) A recreational vehicle;

(5) A commercial motor vehicle within the boundaries of an eligible unit of local government, if the person is employed by the eligible unit of local government and is operating the commercial motor vehicle for the purpose of removing snow or ice from a roadway by plowing, sanding, or salting, but only if either the employee who holds a commercial driver's license issued under R.C. Chapter 4506 and ordinarily operates a commercial motor vehicle for these purposes is unable to operate the vehicle, or the employing eligible unit of local government determines that a snow or ice emergency exists that requires additional assistance;

(6) A vehicle operated for military purposes by any member or uniformed employee of the armed forces of the United States or their reserve components, including the Ohio National Guard. This exception does not apply to United States reserve technicians;

(7) A commercial motor vehicle that is operated for nonbusiness purposes. "Operated for nonbusiness purposes" means that the commercial motor vehicle is not used in commerce as "commerce" is defined in 49 C.F.R. § 383.5, as amended, and is not regulated by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to R.C. Chapter 4919, 4921, or 4923;

(8) A motor vehicle that is designed primarily for the transportation of goods and not persons, while that motor vehicle is being used for the occasional transportation of personal property by individuals not for compensation and not in the furtherance of a commercial enterprise;

(9) A police SWAT team vehicle;

(10) A police vehicle used to transport prisoners.

(C) Nothing contained in division (B)(5) of this section shall be construed as preempting or superseding any law, rule or regulation of this state concerning the safe operation of commercial motor vehicles. (R.C. § 4506.03(A) - (C)) (Rev. 2010)

(D) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person may drive a commercial motor vehicle on a highway in this municipality if all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) The person has a valid commercial driver's license or commercial driver's license temporary instruction permit issued by any state or jurisdiction in accordance with the minimum standards adopted by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration under the "Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986", 100 Stat. 3207-171, 49 U.S.C. App., for issuance of commercial driver's licenses;
- (2) The person's commercial driver's license or permit is not suspended, revoked or cancelled;
- (3) The person is not disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle;

(4) The person is not subject to an out-of-service order.
(R.C. § 4506.05(A)) (Rev. 2006)

(E) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.
(R.C. §§ 4506.03(D), 4506.05(B)) (Rev. 2006)

§ 71.49 PHYSICAL QUALIFICATION TO OPERATE COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES.

(A) No person who holds a valid commercial driver's license shall drive a commercial motor vehicle unless the person is physically qualified to do so. Each person who drives or expects to drive a commercial motor vehicle in interstate or foreign commerce or is otherwise subject to 49 C.F.R. §§ 391 et seq., as amended, shall certify to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles at the time of application for a commercial driver's license that the person is in compliance with these standards. Any person who is not subject to 49 C.F.R. §§ 391 et seq., as amended, shall also certify at the time of application that the person is not subject to these standards.

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.
(R.C. § 4506.10(A), (E)) (Rev. 2004)

§ 71.50 CRIMINAL OFFENSES.

(A) No person shall do any of the following:

(1) Drive a commercial motor vehicle while having a measurable or detectable amount of alcohol or of a controlled substance in the person's blood, breath, or urine;

(2) Drive a commercial motor vehicle while having an alcohol concentration of 0.04% or more by whole blood or breath;

(3) Drive a commercial motor vehicle while having an alcohol concentration of .048% or more by blood serum or blood plasma;

(4) Drive a commercial motor vehicle while having an alcohol concentration of .056% or more by urine;

(5) Drive a motor vehicle while under the influence of a controlled substance;

(6) Use a vehicle in the commission of a felony;

(7) Refuse to submit to a test under R.C. § 4506.17;

(8) Operate a commercial motor vehicle while the person's commercial driving privileges are revoked, suspended, cancelled, or disqualified;

(9) Cause a fatality through the negligent operation of a commercial motor vehicle, including but not limited to the offenses of aggravated vehicular homicide, vehicular homicide, and vehicular manslaughter;

(10) Use a motor vehicle in the commission of a felony involving the manufacture, distribution, or dispensing of a controlled substance as defined in R.C. § 3719.01 or the possession with intent to manufacture, distribute, or dispense a controlled substance;

(11) Drive a commercial motor vehicle in violation of any provision of R.C. §§ 4511.61 through 4511.63 or any federal or local law or ordinance pertaining to railroad-highway grade crossings;

(12) Violate any prohibitions described in divisions (A)(2) through (A)(11) of this section while transporting hazardous materials.
(R.C. § 4506.15(A)) (Rev. 2006)

(B) No person shall refuse to immediately surrender the person's commercial driver's license to a peace officer when required to do so by R.C. § 4506.17.
(R.C. § 4506.17(H))

(C) (1) Within the jurisdictional limits of the appointing authority, any peace officer shall stop and detain any person found violating division (A) of this section without obtaining a warrant. When there is reasonable ground to believe that a violation of division (A) of this section has been committed and a test or tests of the person's whole blood, blood plasma or blood serum, breath or urine is necessary, the peace officer shall take the person to an appropriate place for testing. If a person refuses to submit to a test after being warned as provided in R.C. § 4506.17(C), or submits to a test that discloses the presence of a controlled substance or an alcohol concentration of 0.04% or more by whole blood or breath, an alcohol concentration of .048% or more by blood serum or blood plasma, or an alcohol concentration of .056% or more by urine, the peace officer shall require that the person immediately surrender the person's commercial driver's license to the peace officer.

(2) As used in this division (C), *JURISDICTIONAL LIMITS* means the limits within which a peace officer may arrest and detain a person without a warrant under R.C. § 2935.03, except that the Superintendent and the troopers of the State Highway Patrol may stop and detain, without warrant, any person who, in the presence of the Superintendent or any trooper, is engaged in a violation of any of the provisions of this subchapter or R.C. Chapter 4506.
(R.C. § 4506.23) (Rev. 2006)

(D) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.
(R.C. §§ 4506.15(B), 4506.17(N)) (Rev. 2006)

Statutory reference:

Alcohol or controlled substance testing, disqualification of drivers, see R.C. § 4506.17

Disqualification of drivers for violations, see R.C. § 4506.16

§ 71.51 APPLICATION OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS.

(A) The provisions of 49 C.F.R. part 383, subpart C (Notification Requirements and Employer Responsibilities), as amended, shall apply to all commercial drivers or persons who apply for employment as commercial drivers. No person shall fail to make a report to the person's employer as required by this section.

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.
(R.C. § 4506.19) (Rev. 2004)

§ 71.52 EMPLOYMENT OF DRIVERS OF COMMERCIAL VEHICLES.

(A) Each employer shall require every applicant for employment as a driver of a commercial vehicle to provide the applicant's employment history for the 10 years preceding the date the employment application is submitted to the prospective employer. The following information shall be submitted:

(1) A list of the names and addresses of the applicant's previous employers for which the applicant was the operator of a commercial motor vehicle;

(2) The dates the applicant was employed by these employers;

(3) The reason for leaving each of these employers.

(B) No employer shall knowingly permit or authorize any driver employed by the employer to drive a commercial motor vehicle during any period in which any of the following apply:

(1) The driver's commercial driver's license is suspended, revoked, or cancelled by any state or a foreign jurisdiction;

(2) The driver has lost the privilege to drive, or currently is disqualified from driving, a commercial motor vehicle in any state or foreign jurisdiction;

(3) The driver, the commercial motor vehicle the driver is driving, or the motor carrier operation is subject to an out-of-service order in any state or a foreign jurisdiction;

(4) The driver has more than one driver's license.

(C) No employer shall knowingly permit or authorize a driver to operate a commercial motor vehicle in violation of R.C. § 4506.15.

(D) Whoever violates division (A) or (B) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(E) Whoever violates division (C) of this section is guilty of a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law.
(R.C. § 4506.20) (Rev. 2006)

§ 71.99 PENALTY.

Whoever violates any provision of this chapter for which no penalty otherwise is provided in the section that contains the provision violated is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(R.C. §§ 4506.99, 4507.99) (Rev. 2005)

CHAPTER 72: TRAFFIC RULES

Section

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Statutory reference:

Notice of arrest of certain commercial drivers, see R.C. § 5577.14

GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 72.001 LANES OF TRAVEL UPON ROADWAYS.

(A) Upon all roadways of sufficient width, a vehicle shall be driven upon the right half of the roadway, except as follows:

(1) When overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction, or when making a left turn under the rules governing such movements;

(2) When an obstruction exists making it necessary to drive to the left of the center of the highway; provided, any person so doing shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles traveling in the proper direction upon the unobstructed portion of the highway within such distance as to constitute an immediate hazard;

(3) When driving upon a roadway divided into three or more marked lanes for traffic under the rules applicable thereon;

(4) When driving upon a roadway designated and posted with signs for one-way traffic;

(5) When otherwise directed by a police officer or traffic-control device.

(B) (1) Upon all roadways any vehicle proceeding at less than the prevailing and lawful speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall be driven in the right-hand lane then available for traffic, and far enough to the right to allow passing by faster vehicles if such passing is safe and reasonable, except under any of the following circumstances:

(a) When overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction;

(b) When preparing for a left turn;

(c) When the driver must necessarily drive in a lane other than the right-hand lane to continue on the driver's intended route.

(2) Nothing in division (B)(1) of this section requires a driver of a slower vehicle to compromise the driver's safety to allow overtaking by a faster vehicle.

(C) Upon any roadway having four or more lanes for moving traffic and providing for two-way movement of traffic, no vehicle shall be driven to the left of the center line of the roadway, except when authorized by official traffic-control devices designating certain lanes to the left of the center of the roadway for use by traffic not otherwise permitted to use the lanes, or except as permitted under division (A)(2) of this section. This division shall not be construed as prohibiting the crossing of the center line in making a left turn into or from an alley, private road, or driveway.

(D) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.25) (Rev. 2007)

§ 72.002 DRIVING THROUGH SAFETY ZONE.

(A) No vehicle shall at any time be driven through or within a safety zone.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.60) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.003 VEHICLES TRAVELING IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS.

(A) Operators of vehicles proceeding in opposite directions shall pass each other to the right, and upon roadways having width for not more than one line of traffic in each direction, each operator shall give to the other one-half of the main traveled portion of the roadway or as nearly one-half as is reasonably possible.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty

to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.26) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.004 RULES GOVERNING OVERTAKING AND PASSING OF VEHICLES.

(A) The following rules govern the overtaking and passing of vehicles proceeding in the same direction:

(1) The operator of a vehicle overtaking another vehicle proceeding in the same direction shall, except as provided in division (A)(3) of this section, signal to the vehicle to be overtaken, shall pass to the left thereof at a safe distance, and shall not again drive to the right side of the roadway until safely clear of the overtaken vehicle.

(2) Except when overtaking and passing on the right is permitted, the operator of an overtaken vehicle shall give way to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle at the latter's audible signal, and the operator shall not increase the speed of the operator's vehicle until completely passed by the overtaking vehicle.

(3) The operator of a vehicle overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction on a divided highway as defined in R.C. § 4511.35, a limited access highway as defined in R.C. § 5511.02, or a highway with four or more traffic lanes is not required to signal audibly to the vehicle being overtaken and passed.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.27) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.005 PERMISSION TO OVERTAKE AND PASS ON THE RIGHT.

(A) The driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass on the right of another vehicle only under the following conditions:

(1) When the vehicle overtaken is making or about to make a left turn; or

(2) Upon a roadway with unobstructed pavement of sufficient width for two or more lines of

vehicles moving lawfully in the direction being traveled by the overtaking vehicle.

(B) The driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass another vehicle only under conditions permitting the movement in safety. The movement shall not be made by driving off the roadway.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.28) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.006 DRIVING TO LEFT OF CENTER LINE.

(A) No vehicle shall be driven to the left of the center of the roadway in overtaking and passing traffic proceeding in the same direction, unless the left side is clearly visible and is free of oncoming traffic for a sufficient distance ahead to permit the overtaking and passing to be completely made without interfering with the safe operation of any traffic approaching from the opposite direction or any traffic overtaken. In every event, the overtaking vehicle must return to an authorized lane of travel as soon as practicable, and in the event the passing movement involves the use of a lane authorized for the traffic approaching from the opposite direction, before coming within 200 feet of any approaching vehicle.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.29) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.007 PROHIBITION AGAINST DRIVING UPON LEFT SIDE OF ROADWAY.

(A) No vehicle shall be driven upon the left side of the roadway under the following conditions:

(1) When approaching the crest of a grade or upon a curve in the highway, where the operator's view is obstructed within such a distance as to create a hazard in the event traffic might approach from the opposite direction;

(2) When the view is obstructed upon approaching within 100 feet of any bridge, viaduct, or tunnel; or

(3) When approaching within 100 feet of or traversing any intersection or railroad grade crossing.

(B) This section does not apply to vehicles upon a one-way roadway, upon a roadway where traffic is lawfully directed to be driven to the left side, or under the conditions described in R.C. § 4511.25(A)(2) or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.30) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.008 HAZARDOUS ZONES.

(A) The Department of Transportation may determine those portions of any state highway where overtaking and passing other traffic or driving to the left of the center or center line of the roadway would be especially hazardous, and may, by appropriate signs or markings on the highway, indicate the beginning and end of such zones. When signs or markings are in place and clearly visible, every operator of a vehicle shall obey the directions of the signs or markings, notwithstanding the distances set out in R.C. § 4511.30.

(B) Division (A) of this section does not apply when all of the following apply:

(1) The slower vehicle is proceeding at less than half the speed of the speed limit applicable to that location.

(2) The faster vehicle is capable of overtaking and passing the slower vehicle without exceeding the speed limit.

(3) There is sufficient clear sight distance to the left of the center or center line of the roadway to meet the overtaking and passing provisions of R.C. § 4511.29, considering the speed of the slower vehicle.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate

motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.31) (Rev. 2007)

§ 72.009 ONE-WAY HIGHWAYS AND ROTARY TRAFFIC ISLANDS.

(A) (1) Upon a roadway designated and posted with signs for one-way traffic, a vehicle shall be driven only in the direction designated.

(2) A vehicle passing around a rotary traffic island shall be driven only to the right of the rotary traffic island.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.32) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.010 RULES FOR DRIVING IN MARKED LANES.

(A) Whenever any roadway has been divided into two or more clearly marked lanes for traffic, or wherever within the municipality traffic is lawfully moving in two or more substantially continuous lines in the same direction, the following rules apply:

(1) A vehicle shall be driven, as nearly as is practicable, entirely within a single lane or line of traffic and shall not be moved from the lane or line until the driver has first ascertained that the movement can be made with safety.

(2) Upon a roadway which is divided into three lanes and provides for the two-way movement of traffic, a vehicle shall not be driven in the center lane, except when overtaking and passing another vehicle where the roadway is clearly visible and the center lane is clear of traffic within a safe distance, or when preparing for a left turn, or where the center lane is at the time allocated exclusively to traffic moving in the direction the vehicle is proceeding, and is posted with signs to give notice of such allocation.

(3) Official signs may be erected directing specified traffic to use a designated lane or designating those lanes to be used by traffic moving in a particular direction, regardless of the center of the roadway, or restricting the use of a particular lane to only buses during certain hours or during all hours, and drivers of vehicles shall obey the directions of such signs.

(4) Official traffic-control devices may be installed prohibiting the changing of lanes on sections of roadway, and drivers of vehicles shall obey the directions of every such device.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.33) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.011 SPACE BETWEEN MOVING VEHICLES.

(A) (1) The operator of a motor vehicle shall not follow another vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent, having due regard for the speed of the vehicle and the traffic upon and the condition of the highway.

(2) The driver of any truck, or motor vehicle drawing another vehicle, when traveling upon a roadway outside a business or residence district, shall maintain a sufficient space, whenever conditions permit, between the vehicle and another vehicle ahead so an overtaking motor vehicle may enter and occupy the space without danger. This division does not prevent overtaking and passing nor does it apply to any lane specially designated for use by trucks.

(3) Motor vehicles being driven upon any roadway outside of a business or residence district in a caravan or motorcade shall maintain a sufficient space between the vehicles so an overtaking vehicle may enter and occupy the space without danger. This division shall not apply to funeral processions.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.34) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.012 DIVIDED ROADWAYS.

(A) Whenever any highway has been divided into two roadways by an intervening space, or by a physical barrier, or a clearly indicated dividing section so constructed as to

impede vehicular traffic, every vehicle shall be driven only upon the right-hand roadway, and no vehicle shall be driven over, across, or within any dividing space, barrier, or section, except through an opening, crossover, or intersection established by public authority. This section does not prohibit the occupancy of the dividing space, barrier, or section for the purpose of an emergency stop, or in compliance with an order of a police officer.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.35) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.013 RULES FOR TURNS AT INTERSECTIONS.

(A) The driver of a vehicle intending to turn at an intersection shall be governed by the following rules:

(1) 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.

(2) 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 center line where it enters the intersection, and, after entering the intersection, the left turn shall be made so as to leave the intersection to the right of the center line of the roadway being entered. Whenever practicable, the left turn shall be made in that portion of the intersection to the left of the center of the intersection.

(3) 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 the 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 of the roadway being entered lawfully available to traffic moving in that lane.

(B) The Department of Transportation and local authorities may cause markers, buttons, or signs to be placed within or adjacent to intersections, and thereby require and direct that a different course from that specified in this section be traveled by vehicles turning at an intersection, and when markers, buttons, or signs are so placed, no operator

of a vehicle shall turn the vehicle at an intersection other than as directed and required by the markers, buttons, or signs.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.36) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.014 U-TURNS AND TURNING IN ROADWAY PROHIBITED.

(A) Except as provided in division (B) of this section, 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, if such vehicle cannot be seen within 500 feet by the driver of any other vehicle approaching from either direction.

(B) The driver of an emergency vehicle or public safety vehicle, when responding to an emergency call, may turn the vehicle so as to proceed in the opposite direction. This division applies only when the emergency vehicle or public safety vehicle is responding to an emergency call, is equipped with and displaying at least one flashing, rotating, or oscillating light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of 500 feet to the front of the vehicle, and when the driver of the vehicle is giving an audible signal by siren, exhaust whistle, or bell. This division does not relieve the driver of an emergency vehicle or public safety vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons and property upon the highway.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.37) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.015 STARTING AND BACKING VEHICLES.

(A) (1) No person shall start a vehicle which is stopped, standing, or parked until the movement can be made with reasonable safety.

(2) Before backing, operators of vehicles shall give ample warning, and while backing they shall exercise vigilance not to injure person or property on the street or highway.

(3) No person shall back a motor vehicle on a freeway, except:

(a) In a rest area;

(b) In the performance of public works or official duties;

(c) As a result of an emergency caused by an accident or breakdown of a motor vehicle.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.38) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.016 TURN AND STOP SIGNALS.

(A) (1) No person shall turn a vehicle or move right or left upon a highway unless and until the person has exercised due care to ascertain that the movement can be made with reasonable safety, nor without giving an appropriate signal in the manner hereinafter provided.

(2) When required, a signal of intention to turn or move right or left shall be given continuously during not less than the last 100 feet traveled by the vehicle before turning, except that in the case of a person operating a bicycle, the signal shall be made not less than one time but is not required to be continuous. A bicycle operator is not required to make a signal if the bicycle is in a designated turn lane, and a signal shall not be given when the operator's hands are needed for the safe operation of the bicycle.

(3) No person shall stop or suddenly decrease the speed of a vehicle without first giving an appropriate signal in the manner provided herein to the driver of any vehicle immediately to the rear, when there is opportunity to give a signal.

(4) Any stop or turn signal required by this section shall be given either by means of the hand and arm, or by signal lights that clearly indicate to both approaching and following traffic the intention to turn or move right or left, except that any motor vehicle in use on a highway shall be equipped with, and the required signal shall be given by, signal lights 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 24 inches, 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 14 feet, whether a single vehicle or a combination of vehicles.

(5) The signal lights required by this section shall not be flashed on one side only on a disabled vehicle, flashed as a courtesy or "do pass" signal to operators of other vehicles approaching from the rear, nor be flashed on one side only of a parked vehicle except as may be necessary for compliance with this section.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.39) (Rev. 2007)

§ 72.017 HAND AND ARM SIGNALS.

(A) Except as provided in division (B) of this section, all signals required by the provisions of this traffic code, when given by hand and arm, shall be given from the left side of the vehicle in the following manner, and the signals shall indicate as follows:

(1) Left turn, hand and arm extended horizontally;

(2) Right turn, hand and arm extended upward;

(3) Stop or decrease speed, hand and arm extended downward.

(B) As an alternative to division (A)(2) of this section, a person operating a bicycle may give a right turn signal by extending the right hand and arm horizontally and to the right side of the bicycle.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.40) (Rev. 2004)

RIGHT-OF-WAY

§ 72.030 RIGHT-OF-WAY AT INTERSECTIONS.

(A) When two vehicles approach or enter an intersection from different streets or highways at approximately the same time, the driver of the vehicle on the left shall yield the right-of-way to the vehicle on the right.

(B) The right-of-way rule declared in division (A) of this section is modified at through highways and otherwise as stated in this traffic code or R.C. Chapter 4511.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.41) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.031 RIGHT-OF-WAY WHEN TURNING LEFT.

(A) The operator of a vehicle intending to turn to the left within an intersection or into an alley, private road, or driveway shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction which is within the intersection or so close thereto as to constitute an immediate hazard.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.42) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.032 RIGHT-OF-WAY AT THROUGH HIGHWAYS; STOP SIGNS; YIELD SIGNS.

(A) Except when directed to proceed by a law enforcement officer, every driver of a vehicle approaching a stop sign shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or, if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering it. After having stopped, the driver shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle in the intersection or

approaching on another roadway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time the driver is moving across or within the intersection or junction of roadways.

(B) The driver of a vehicle approaching a yield sign shall slow down to a speed reasonable for the existing conditions, and if required for safety to stop, shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering it. After slowing, the driver shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle in the intersection or approaching on another roadway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time the driver is moving across or within the intersection or junction of roadways. Whenever a driver is involved in a collision with a vehicle in the intersection or junction of roadways, after driving past a yield sign without stopping, the collision shall be prima facie evidence of the driver's failure to yield the right-of-way.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.43) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.033 STOP AT SIDEWALK AREA; STOP SIGNS ON PRIVATE ROADS AND DRIVEWAYS.

(A) The driver of a vehicle emerging from an alley, building, private road, or driveway within a business or residence district shall stop the vehicle immediately prior to driving onto a sidewalk or onto the sidewalk area extending across the alley, building entrance, road, or driveway, or in the event there is no sidewalk area, shall stop at the point nearest the street to be entered where the driver has a view of approaching traffic thereon. (R.C. § 4511.431(A))

(B) The owner of a private road or driveway located in a private residential area containing 20 or more dwelling units may erect stop signs at places where the road or driveway intersects with another private road or driveway in the residential area, in compliance with all of the following requirements:

(1) The stop sign is sufficiently legible to be seen by an ordinarily observant person and meets the specifications of and is placed in accordance with the manual adopted by the Department of Transportation pursuant to R.C. § 4511.09;

(2) The owner has posted a sign at the entrance of the private road or driveway that is in plain view and clearly informs persons entering the road or driveway that they are entering private property, stop signs have been posted and must be obeyed, and the signs are enforceable by law enforcement officers under state law. The sign required by this division, where appropriate, may be incorporated with the sign required by R.C. § 4511.211(A)(2), or any substantially equivalent municipal ordinance.

(C) The provisions of R.C. § 4511.43(A) and R.C. § 4511.46, or any substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, shall be deemed to apply to the driver of a vehicle on a private road or driveway where a stop sign is placed in accordance with division (B) of this section and to a pedestrian crossing such a road or driveway at an intersection where a stop sign is in place.

(D) When a stop sign is placed in accordance with division (B) of this section, any law enforcement officer may apprehend a person found violating the stop sign and may stop and charge the person with violating the stop sign.

(E) As used in this section, and for the purpose of applying R.C. § 4511.43(A) and R.C. § 4511.46, or any substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, to conduct under this section:

INTERSECTION. Means:

(a) The area embraced within the prolongation or connection of the lateral curb lines, or, if none, then the lateral boundary lines of the roadways of two private roads or driveways which join one another at, or approximately at, right angles, or the area within which vehicles traveling upon different private roads or driveways joining at any other angle may come in conflict.

(b) Where a private road or driveway includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then every crossing of two roadways of such private roads or driveways shall be regarded as a separate intersection.

OWNER. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 4511.211.

PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL AREA CONTAINING 20 OR MORE DWELLING UNITS. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 4511.211.

ROADWAY. Means that portion of a private road or driveway improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, except the berm or shoulder. If a private road or driveway includes two or more separate roadways, the term means any such roadway separately but not all such roadways collectively. (R.C. § 4511.432(A) - (C), (E))

(F) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the

offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(R.C. §§ 4511.431(B), 4511.432(D)) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.034 RIGHT-OF-WAY ON PUBLIC HIGHWAY.

(A) The operator of a vehicle about to enter or cross a highway from any place other than another roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all traffic approaching on the roadway to be entered or crossed.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(R.C. § 4511.44) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.035 PEDESTRIAN ON SIDEWALK HAS RIGHT-OF-WAY.

(A) The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian on a sidewalk.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(R.C. § 4511.441) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.036 RIGHT-OF-WAY OF PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLES.

(A) Upon the approach of a public safety vehicle or coroner's vehicle, equipped with at least one flashing, rotating, or oscillating light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of 500 feet to the front of the vehicle, and the driver is giving an audible signal by siren, exhaust whistle, or bell, no driver of any other vehicle shall fail to yield the right-of-way, immediately drive if practical to a position parallel to, and as close as possible to, the right edge or curb of the highway

clear of any intersection, and stop and remain in that position until the public safety vehicle or coroner's vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer.

(B) This section does not relieve the driver of a public safety vehicle or coroner's vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons and property upon the highway.

(C) This section applies to a coroner's vehicle only when the vehicle is operated in accordance with R.C. § 4511.171, or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance. As used in this section, *CORONER'S VEHICLE* means a vehicle used by a coroner, deputy coroner or coroner's investigator that is equipped with a flashing, oscillating or rotating red or blue light and a siren, exhaust whistle or bell capable of giving an audible signal.

(D) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree on a first offense. On a second offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree, and, on each subsequent offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree.

(R.C. § 4511.45) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.037 FUNERAL PROCESSION HAS RIGHT-OF-WAY.

(A) As used in this section, *FUNERAL PROCESSION* means two or more vehicles accompanying the cremated remains or the body of a deceased person in the daytime when each of the vehicles has its headlights lighted and is displaying a purple and white or an orange and white pennant attached to each vehicle in such a manner as to be clearly visible to traffic approaching from any direction.

(B) Excepting public safety vehicles proceeding in accordance with R.C. § 4511.45 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, or when directed otherwise by a police officer, pedestrians and the operators of all vehicles shall yield the right-of-way to each vehicle that is a part of a funeral procession. Whenever the lead vehicle in a funeral procession lawfully enters an intersection, the remainder of the vehicles in the procession may continue to follow the lead vehicle through the intersection, notwithstanding any traffic-control devices or right-of-way provisions of the Ohio Revised Code, provided that the operator of each vehicle exercises due care to avoid colliding with any other vehicle or pedestrian.

(C) No person shall operate any vehicle as a part of a funeral procession without having the headlights of the vehicle lighted and without displaying a purple and white or an orange and white pennant in such a manner as to be clearly visible to traffic approaching from any direction.

(D) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.451) (Rev. 2007)

§ 72.038 PEDESTRIANS YIELD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLE.

(A) Upon the immediate approach of a public safety vehicle, as stated in R.C. § 4511.45 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, every pedestrian shall yield the right-of-way to the public safety vehicle.

(B) This section shall not relieve the driver of a public safety vehicle from the duty to exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.452) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.039 PEDESTRIAN ON CROSSWALK HAS RIGHT-OF-WAY.

(A) When traffic-control signals are not in place, not in operation, or are not clearly assigning the right-of-way, the driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way, slowing down or stopping if need be to so yield, or if required by R.C. § 4511.132 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling, or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger.

(B) No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.

(C) Division (A) of this section does not apply under the conditions stated in R.C. § 4511.48(B), or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance.

(D) Whenever any vehicle is stopped at a marked crosswalk or at any unmarked crosswalk at an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway, the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear shall not overtake and pass the stopped vehicle.

(E) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.46) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.040 RIGHT-OF-WAY YIELDED TO BLIND PERSON.

(A) (1) As used in this section *BLIND PERSON* or *BLIND PEDESTRIAN* means a person having not more than 20/200 visual acuity in the better eye with correcting lenses, or visual acuity greater than 20/200, but with a limitation in the fields of vision such that the widest diameter of the visual field subtends an angle no greater than 20 degrees.

(2) The driver of every vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to every blind pedestrian guided by a guide dog, or carrying a cane which is predominantly white or metallic in color, with or without a red tip.

(B) No person, other than a blind person, while on any public highway, street, alley, or other public thoroughfare, shall carry a white or metallic cane, with or without a red tip.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.47) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.041 RIGHT-OF-WAY YIELDED BY PEDESTRIAN.

(A) Every pedestrian crossing a roadway at any point other than within a marked crosswalk or within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.

(B) Any pedestrian crossing a roadway at a point where a pedestrian tunnel or overhead pedestrian crossing has been provided shall yield the right-of-way to all traffic upon the roadway.

(C) Between adjacent intersections at which traffic-control signals are in operation, pedestrians shall not cross at any place except in a marked crosswalk.

(D) No pedestrian shall cross a roadway intersection diagonally unless authorized by official traffic-control devices; and when authorized to cross diagonally, pedestrians shall cross only in accordance with the official traffic-control devices pertaining to such crossing movements.

(E) This section does not relieve the operator of a vehicle from exercising due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian upon any roadway.

(F) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.48) (Rev. 2004)

PEDESTRIANS

§ 72.055 PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT IN CROSSWALKS.

(A) Pedestrians shall move, whenever practicable, upon the right half of crosswalks.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.49) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.056 PEDESTRIAN WALKING ALONG HIGHWAY.

(A) Where a sidewalk is provided and its use is practicable, it shall be unlawful for any pedestrian to walk along and upon an adjacent roadway.

(B) Where a sidewalk is not available, any pedestrian walking along and upon a highway shall walk only on a shoulder, as far as practicable from the edge of the roadway.

(C) Where neither a sidewalk nor a shoulder is available, any pedestrian walking along and upon a highway shall walk as near as practicable to an outside edge of the roadway, and, if on a two-way roadway, shall walk only on the left side of the roadway.

(D) Except as otherwise provided in R.C. §§ 4511.13 and 4511.46, or any substantially equivalent municipal ordinances, any pedestrian upon a roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.

(E) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.50) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.057 PROHIBITION AGAINST SOLICITING RIDES; RIDING ON OUTSIDE OF VEHICLE.

(A) No person while on a roadway outside a safety zone shall solicit a ride from the driver of any vehicle.

(B) (1) Except as provided in division (B)(2) of this section, no person shall stand on a highway for the purpose of soliciting employment, business, or contributions from the occupant of any vehicle.

(2) The Legislative Authority, by ordinance, may authorize the issuance of a permit to a charitable organization to allow a person acting on behalf of the organization to solicit charitable contributions from the occupant of a vehicle by standing on a highway, other than a freeway as provided in R.C. § 4511.051(A)(1), that is under the jurisdiction of the municipality. The permit shall be valid for only one period of time, which shall be specified in the permit, in any calendar year. The Legislative Authority also may specify the locations where contributions may be solicited and may impose any other restrictions on or requirements regarding the manner in which the solicitations are to be conducted that the Legislative Authority considers advisable.

(3) As used in division (B)(2) of this section, **CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION** means an organization that has received from the Internal Revenue Service a currently valid ruling or determination letter recognizing the tax-exempt status of the organization pursuant to IRC § 501(c)(3).

(C) No person shall hang onto or ride on the outside of any motor vehicle while it is moving upon a roadway, except mechanics or test engineers making repairs or adjustments, or workers performing specialized highway or street maintenance or construction under authority of a public agency.

(D) No operator shall knowingly permit any person to hang onto or ride on the outside of any motor vehicle while it is moving upon a roadway, except mechanics or test engineers making repairs or adjustments, or workers performing specialized highway or street maintenance or construction under authority of a public agency.

(E) No driver of a truck, trailer, or semitrailer shall knowingly permit any person who has not attained the age of 16 years to ride in the unenclosed or unroofed cargo storage area of the driver's vehicle if the vehicle is traveling faster than 25 miles per hour, unless either of the following applies:

(1) The cargo storage area of the vehicle is equipped with a properly secured seat to which is attached a seat safety belt that is in compliance with federal standards for an occupant restraining device as defined in R.C. § 4513.263(A)(2), the seat and seat safety belt were installed at the time the vehicle was originally assembled, and the person riding in the cargo storage area is in the seat and is wearing the seat safety belt; or

(2) An emergency exists that threatens the life of the driver or the person being transported in the cargo storage area of the truck, trailer, or semitrailer.

(F) No driver of a truck, trailer, or semitrailer shall permit any person, except for those workers performing specialized highway or street maintenance or construction under authority of a public agency, to ride in the cargo storage area or on a tailgate of the driver's vehicle while the tailgate is unlatched.

(G) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates any provision of divisions (A) through (D) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates any provision of divisions (A) through (D) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates any provision of divisions (A) through (D) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(2) Whoever violates division (E) or (F) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
(R.C. § 4511.51) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.058 PEDESTRIAN ON BRIDGE OR RAILROAD CROSSING.

(A) No pedestrian shall enter or remain upon any bridge or approach thereto beyond the bridge signal, gate, or barrier after a bridge operation signal indication has been given.

(B) No pedestrian shall pass through, around, over, or under any crossing gate or barrier at a railroad grade crossing or bridge while the gate or barrier is closed or is being opened or closed.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.
(R.C. § 4511.511) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.059 PERSONS OPERATING MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIRS.

Every person operating a motorized wheelchair shall have all of the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian that are contained in this chapter, except those provisions which by their nature can have no application.
(R.C. § 4511.491)

§ 72.060 INTOXICATED OR DRUGGED PEDESTRIAN HAZARD ON HIGHWAY.

(A) A pedestrian who is under the influence of alcohol, any drug of abuse, or any combination of them to a degree that renders the pedestrian a hazard shall not walk or be upon a highway.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.
(R.C. § 4511.481) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.061 OPERATION OF ELECTRIC PERSONAL ASSISTIVE MOBILITY DEVICES.

(A) (1) Electric personal assistive mobility devices may be operated on the public streets, highways, sidewalks, and paths and portions of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles in accordance with this section.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, those sections of this Traffic Code that by their nature are applicable to an electric personal assistive mobility device apply to the device and the person operating it whenever it is operated upon any public street, highway, sidewalk, or path or upon any portion of a roadway set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.

(3) The municipality may regulate or prohibit the operation of electric personal assistive mobility devices on public streets, highways, sidewalks, and paths, or portions of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles, under its jurisdiction.

(B) No operator of an electric personal assistive mobility device shall do any of the following:

(1) Fail to yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians and human-powered vehicles at all times;

(2) Fail to give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian;

(3) Operate the device at night unless the device or its operator is equipped with or wearing both of the following:

(a) A lamp pointing to the front that emits a white light visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet;

(b) A red reflector facing the rear that is visible from all distances from 100 feet to 600 feet when directly in front of lawful lower beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle;

(4) Operate the device on any portion of a street or highway that has an established speed limit of 55 miles per hour or more;

(5) Operate the device upon any path set aside for the exclusive use of pedestrians or other specialized use when an appropriate sign giving notice of the specialized use is posted on the path;

(6) If under 18 years of age, operate the device unless wearing a protective helmet on the person's head with the chin strap properly fastened;

(7) If under 16 years of age, operate the device unless, during the operation, the person is under the direct visual and audible supervision of another person who is 18

years of age or older and is responsible for the immediate care of the person under 16 years of age.

(C) No person who is under 14 years of age shall operate an electric personal assistive mobility device.

(D) No person shall distribute or sell an electric personal assistive mobility device unless the device is accompanied by a written statement that is substantially equivalent to the following: "WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF SERIOUS INJURY, USE ONLY WHILE WEARING FULL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT - HELMET, WRIST GUARDS, ELBOW PADS, AND KNEE PADS".

(E) Nothing in this section affects or shall be construed to affect any rule of the Director of Natural Resources or a board of park district commissioners governing the operation of vehicles on lands under the control of the Director or board, as applicable.

(F) Penalty.

(1) Whoever violates division (B) or (C) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor and shall be punished as follows:

(a) The offender shall be fined \$10;

(b) If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of division (B) or (C) of this section or a substantially equivalent state law or municipal ordinance, the court, in addition to imposing the fine required under division (F)(1)(a) of this section, shall do one of the following:

1. Order the impoundment for not less than one day but not more than 30 days of the electric personal assistive mobility device that was involved in the current violation of that division. The court shall order the device to be impounded at a safe indoor location designated by the court and may assess storage fees of not more than \$5 per day; provided the total storage, processing, and release fees assessed against the offender or the device in connection with the device's impoundment or subsequent release shall not exceed \$50.

2. If the court does not issue an impoundment order pursuant to division (F)(1)(b)1. of this section, issue an order prohibiting the offender from operating any electric personal assistive mobility device on the public streets, highways, sidewalks, and paths and portions of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles for not less than one day but not more than 30 days.

(2) Whoever violates division (D) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
(R.C. § 4511.512) (Rev. 2004)

(G) As used in this code, ***ELECTRIC PERSONAL ASSISTIVE MOBILITY DEVICE*** means a self-balancing two non-tandem wheeled device that is designed to transport only one person, has an electric propulsion system of an average of 750 watts, and when ridden on a paved level surface by an operator who weighs 170 pounds has a maximum speed of less than 20 miles per hour. (R.C. § 4501.01(TT)) (Rev. 2005)

GRADE CROSSINGS

§ 72.075 STOP SIGNS AT GRADE CROSSINGS.

(A) The Department of Transportation and local authorities, with the approval of the Department, may designate dangerous highway crossings over railroad tracks, and erect stop signs thereat. When stop signs are erected, the operator of any vehicle shall stop within 50, but not less than 15, feet from the nearest rail of the railroad tracks, and shall exercise due care before proceeding across the grade crossing.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.61) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.076 DRIVING VEHICLE ACROSS RAILROAD GRADE CROSSING.

(A) (1) Whenever any person driving a vehicle approaches a railroad grade crossing, the person shall stop within 50 feet but not less than 15 feet from the nearest rail of the railroad if any of the following circumstances exist at the crossing:

(a) A clearly visible electric or mechanical signal device gives warning of the immediate approach of a train.

(b) A crossing gate is lowered.

(c) A flagperson gives or continues to give a signal of the approach or passage of a train.

(d) There is insufficient space on the other side of the railroad grade crossing to accommodate the vehicle the person is operating without obstructing the passage of other vehicles, pedestrians or railroad trains,

notwithstanding any traffic control signal indication to proceed.

(e) An approaching train is emitting an audible signal or is plainly visible, and is in hazardous proximity to the crossing.

(f) There is insufficient undercarriage clearance to safely negotiate the crossing.

(2) A person who is driving a vehicle and who approaches a railroad grade crossing shall not proceed as long as any of the circumstances described in divisions (A)(1)(a) through (A)(1)(f) of this section exist at the crossing.

(B) No person shall drive any vehicle through, around, or under any crossing gate or barrier at a railroad crossing while the gate or barrier is closed, or is being opened or closed unless the person is signaled by a law enforcement officer or flagperson that it is permissible to do so.

(C) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. (R.C. § 4511.62) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.077 VEHICLES REQUIRED TO STOP AT GRADE CROSSINGS.

(A) Except as provided in division (B) of this section, the operator of any bus, any school vehicle, or any vehicle transporting material required to be placarded under 49 C.F.R. parts 100 through 185, before crossing at grade any track of a railroad, shall stop the vehicle, and while so stopped, shall listen through an open door or open window, and look in both directions along the track for any approaching train and for signals indicating the approach of a train, and shall proceed only upon exercising due care after stopping, looking, and listening as required by this section. Upon proceeding, the operator of such a vehicle shall cross only in a gear that will ensure there will be no necessity for changing gears while traversing the crossing, and shall not shift gears while crossing the tracks.

(B) This section does not apply at grade crossings when any local authority has filed an application with the Public Utilities Commission requesting the approval of an exempt crossing, and the Public Utilities Commission has authorized and approved an exempt crossing as provided in R.C. § 4511.63(B).

(C) As used in this section:

BUS. Means any vehicle originally designed by its manufacturer to transport 16 or more passengers, including the driver, or carries 16 or more passengers, including the driver.

EXEMPT CROSSING. Means a highway rail grade crossing authorized and approved by the Public Utilities Commission under R.C. § 4511.63(B) at which vehicles may cross without making the stop otherwise required by this section.

SCHOOL VEHICLE. Means any vehicle used for the transportation of pupils to and from a school or school-related function if the vehicle is owned or operated by, or operated under contract with, a public or nonpublic school.

(D) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one or more violations of this section or R.C. § 4511.63, 4511.76, 4511.761, 4511.762, 4511.764, 4511.77, or 4511.79, or a municipal ordinance that is substantially equivalent to any of those sections, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(R.C. § 4511.63) (Rev. 2006)

§ 72.078 SLOW-MOVING VEHICLES OR EQUIPMENT CROSSING RAILROAD TRACKS.

(A) No person shall operate or move any crawler-type tractor, steam shovel, derrick, roller, or any equipment or structure having a normal operating speed of six or less miles per hour or a vertical body or load clearance of less than nine inches above the level surface of a roadway, upon or across any tracks at a railroad grade crossing without first complying with divisions (A)(1) and (A)(2) of this section.

(1) Before making any such crossing, the person operating or moving any such vehicle or equipment shall first stop the same, and while stopped, the person shall listen and look in both directions along the track for any approaching train and for signals indicating the approach of a train, and shall proceed only upon exercising due care.

(2) No such crossing shall be made when warning is given by automatic signal, crossing gates, or a flagperson, or otherwise of the immediate approach of a railroad train or car.

(B) If the normal sustained speed of the vehicle, equipment, or structure is not more than three miles per hour, the person owning, operating, or moving the same shall also give notice of the intended crossing to a station agent or superintendent of the railroad, and a reasonable time shall be given to the railroad to provide proper protection for the crossing. Where the vehicles or equipment are being used in constructing or repairing a section of highway lying on both sides of a railroad grade crossing, and in this construction or repair it is necessary to repeatedly move the vehicles or equipment over the crossing, one daily notice specifying when the work will start and stating the hours during which it will be prosecuted is sufficient.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.64) (Rev. 2004)

SCHOOL BUSES

§ 72.090 REGULATIONS CONCERNING SCHOOL BUSES.

(A) The driver of a vehicle, upon meeting or overtaking from either direction any school bus stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging any school child, person attending programs offered by community boards of mental health and county boards of developmental disabilities, or child attending a program offered by a head start agency, shall stop at least ten feet from the front or rear of the school bus and shall not proceed until such school bus resumes motion, or until signaled by the school bus driver to proceed. It is no defense to a charge under this division that the school bus involved failed to display or be equipped with an automatically extended stop warning sign as required by division (B) of this section.

(B) Every school bus shall be equipped with amber and red visual signals meeting the requirements of R.C. § 4511.771 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, and an automatically extended stop warning sign of a type approved by the state Board of Education, which shall be actuated by the driver of the bus whenever but only whenever the bus is stopped or stopping on the roadway for the purpose of receiving or discharging school children, persons attending programs offered by community boards of mental health and county boards of developmental disabilities, or children attending programs offered by head start agencies. A school bus driver shall not actuate the visual signals or the stop warning sign in designated school bus loading areas where the bus is entirely off the roadway or at school buildings when children or persons attending programs offered by community boards of mental health and county boards of developmental disabilities are loading or unloading at curbside or at buildings when children attending programs offered by head start agencies are loading or unloading at curbside. The visual signals and stop warning sign shall be synchronized or otherwise operated as required by rule of the Board.

(C) Where a highway has been divided into four or more traffic lanes, a driver of a vehicle need not stop for a school bus approaching from the opposite direction which has stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging any

school child, persons attending programs offered by community boards of mental health and county boards of developmental disabilities, or children attending programs offered by head start agencies. The driver of any vehicle overtaking the school bus shall comply with division (A) above.

(D) School buses operating on divided highways or on highways with four or more traffic lanes shall receive and discharge all school children, persons attending programs offered by community boards of mental health and county boards of developmental disabilities, and children attending programs offered by head start agencies on their residence side of the highway.

(E) No school bus driver shall start the driver's bus until after any child, person attending programs offered by community boards of mental health and county boards of developmental disabilities, or child attending a program offered by a head start agency who may have alighted therefrom has reached a place of safety on the child's or person's residence side of the road.

(F) (1) Whoever violates division (A) of this section may be fined an amount not to exceed \$500. A person who is issued a citation for a violation of division (A) of this section is not permitted to enter a written plea of guilty and waive the person's right to contest the citation in a trial but instead must appear in person in the proper court to answer the charge.

(2) In addition to and independent of any other penalty provided by law, the court or mayor may impose upon an offender who violates this section a class seven suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary license or nonresident operating privilege from the range specified in R.C. § 4510.02(A)(7). When a license is suspended under this section, the court or mayor shall cause the offender to deliver the license to the court, and the court or clerk of the court immediately shall forward the license to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, together with notice of the court's action.

(G) As used in this section:

HEAD START AGENCY. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 3301.32.

SCHOOL BUS. As used in relation to children who attend a program offered by a head start agency, means a bus that is owned and operated by a head start agency, is equipped with an automatically extended stop warning sign of a type approved by the State Board of Education, is painted the color and displays the markings described in R.C. § 4511.77, and is equipped with amber and red visual signals meeting the requirements of R.C. § 4511.77, irrespective of whether or not the bus has 15 or more children aboard at any time. The term does not include a

van owned and operated by a head start agency, irrespective of its color, lights or markings.
(R.C. § 4511.75) (Rev. 2010)

**§ 72.091 VIOLATION OF REGULATIONS;
REPORT; INVESTIGATION; CITATION;
WARNING.**

(A) As used in this section, **LICENSE PLATE** includes but is not limited to any temporary license placard issued under R.C. § 4503.182 or substantially equivalent law of another jurisdiction.

(B) When the operator of a school bus believes that a motorist has violated R.C. § 4511.75(A) or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the operator shall report the license plate number and general description of the vehicle and of the operator of the vehicle to the law enforcement agency exercising jurisdiction over the area where the alleged violation occurred. The information contained in the report relating to the license plate number and to the general description of the vehicle and the operator of the vehicle at the time of the alleged violation may be supplied by any person with first-hand knowledge of the information. Information of which the operator of the school bus has first-hand knowledge also may be corroborated by any other person.

(C) Upon receipt of the report of the alleged violation of R.C. § 4511.75(A) or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, the law enforcement agency shall conduct an investigation to attempt to determine the identity of the operator of the vehicle at the time of the alleged violation. If the identity of the operator at the time of the alleged violation is established, the reporting of the license plate number of the vehicle shall establish probable cause for the law enforcement agency to issue a citation for the violation of R.C. § 4511.75(A) or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance. However, if the identity of the operator of the vehicle at the time of the alleged violation cannot be established, the law enforcement agency shall issue a warning to the owner of the vehicle at the time of the alleged violation, except in the case of a leased or rented vehicle when the warning shall be issued to the lessee at the time of the alleged violation.
(R.C. § 4511.751) (Rev. 1999)

**§ 72.092 RESTRICTIONS ON THE OPERATION OF
SCHOOL BUSES.**

(A) No person shall operate a vehicle used for pupil transportation within this municipality in violation of the rules of the Department of Education of the Department of Public Safety. No person, being the owner thereof, or having the supervisory responsibility therefor, shall permit the operation of a vehicle used for pupil transportation within this municipality in violation of the rules of the

Department of Education or the Department of Public Safety.

(B) As used in this section, **VEHICLE USED FOR PUPIL TRANSPORTATION** means any vehicle that is identified as such by the Department of Education by rule and that is subject to O.A.C. Chapter 3301-83.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one or more violations of this section or R.C. § 4511.76, or R.C. § 4511.63, 4511.761, 4511.762, 4511.764, 4511.77, or 4511.79 or a municipal ordinance that is substantially equivalent to any of those sections, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.
(R.C. § 4511.76(C), (E), (F)) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.093 SCHOOL BUS INSPECTION.

(A) No person shall operate, nor shall any person being the owner thereof, or having supervisory responsibility therefor, permit the operation of, a school bus within this municipality, unless there is displayed thereon the decals issued by the state highway patrol bearing the proper date of inspection for the calendar year for which the inspection decals were issued.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one or more violations of this section or R.C. § 4511.761, or R.C. § 4511.63, 4511.76, 4511.762, 4511.764, 4511.77, or 4511.79 or a municipal ordinance that is substantially equivalent to any of those sections, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(C) Whenever a person is found guilty in a court of record of a violation of this section, the trial judge, in addition to or independent of all other penalties provided by law, may suspend for any period of time not exceeding three years, or cancel the license of any person, partnership, association, or corporation, issued under R.C. § 4511.763.
(R.C. § 4511.761) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.094 SCHOOL BUS NOT USED FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES.

(A) Except as provided in division (B) of this section, no person who is the owner of a bus that previously was registered as a school bus that is used or is to be used exclusively for purposes other than the transportation of children shall operate the bus or permit it to be operated within this municipality unless the bus has been painted a color different from that prescribed for school buses by R.C. § 4511.77 or a substantially equivalent municipal

ordinance and painted in such a way that the words "stop" and "school bus" are obliterated.

(B) Any church bus that previously was registered as a school bus and is registered under R.C. § 4503.07 may retain the paint color prescribed for school buses by R.C. § 4511.77 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance if the bus complies with all of the following:

(1) The words "school bus" required by R.C. § 4511.77 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance are covered or obliterated and the bus is marked on the front and rear with the words "church bus" painted in black lettering not less than ten inches in height.

(2) The automatically extending stop warning sign required by R.C. § 4511.75 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance is removed and the word "stop" required by R.C. § 4511.77 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance is covered or obliterated.

(3) The flashing red and amber lights required by R.C. § 4511.771 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance are covered or removed.

(4) The inspection decal required by R.C. § 4511.761 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance is covered or removed.

(5) The identification number assigned under R.C. § 4511.764 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance and marked in black lettering on the front and rear of the bus is covered or obliterated.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one or more violations of this section or R.C. § 4511.762, or R.C. § 4511.63, 4511.76, 4511.761, 4511.764, 4511.77, or 4511.79 or a municipal ordinance that is substantially equivalent to any of those sections, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(D) Whenever a person is found guilty in a court of record of a violation of this section, the trial judge, in addition to or independent of all other penalties provided by law, may suspend for any period of time not exceeding three years, or cancel the license of any person, partnership, association, or corporation, issued under R.C. § 4511.763.
(R.C. § 4511.762) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.095 LICENSING BY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

(A) No person, partnership, association, or corporation shall transport pupils to or from school on a school bus or enter into a contract with a board of education of any school district for the transportation of pupils on a

school bus without being licensed by the Department of Public Safety.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.763) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.096 REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF SCHOOL BUSES.

(A) No person shall operate, nor shall any person being the owner thereof or having supervisory responsibility therefor, permit the operation of a school bus within this municipality unless there is displayed thereon an identifying number in accordance with R.C. § 4511.764.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one or more violations of R.C. § 4511.63, 4511.76, 4511.761, 4511.762, 4511.77, or 4511.79 or a municipal ordinance that is substantially equivalent to any of those sections, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. (R.C. § 4511.764) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.097 SCHOOL BUS MARKING.

(A) No person shall operate, nor shall any person being the owner thereof or having supervisory responsibility therefor permit the operation of, a school bus within this municipality unless it is painted national school bus yellow and is marked on both front and rear with the words "school bus" in black lettering not less than eight inches in height and on the rear of the bus with the word "stop" in black lettering not less than ten inches in height.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one or more violations of this section or R.C. § 4511.77, or R.C. § 4511.63, 4511.76, 4511.761, 4511.762, 4511.764, or 4511.79 or a municipal ordinance that is substantially equivalent to any of those sections, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(C) Whenever a person is found guilty in a court of record of a violation of this section, the trial judge, in addition to or independent of all other penalties provided by law, may suspend, for any period of time not exceeding

three years, or cancel the license of any person, partnership, association, or corporation issued under R.C. § 4511.763. (R.C. § 4511.77) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.098 FLASHING LIGHT SIGNAL LAMPS.

(A) Every school bus shall, in addition to any other equipment and distinctive markings required pursuant to R.C. §§ 4511.76, 4511.761, 4511.764 and 4511.77, and any substantially equivalent municipal ordinances, be equipped with signal lamps mounted as high as practicable, which shall display to the front two alternately flashing red lights and two alternately flashing amber lights located at the same level and to the rear two alternately flashing red lights and alternately flashing amber lights located at the same level, and these lights shall be visible at 500 feet in normal sunlight. The alternately flashing red lights shall be spaced as widely as practicable, and the alternately flashing amber lights shall be located next to them.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.771) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.099 OCCUPANT RESTRAINING DEVICE FOR OPERATOR.

(A) On and after May 6, 1986, no person, school board, or governmental entity shall purchase, lease, or rent a new school bus unless the school bus has an occupant restraining device, as defined in R.C. § 4513.263, installed for use in its operator's seat.

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. (R.C. § 4511.772) (Rev. 2004)

PROHIBITIONS

§ 72.115 OBSTRUCTION AND INTERFERENCE AFFECTING VIEW AND CONTROL OF DRIVER.

(A) No person shall drive a vehicle when it is so loaded, or when there are in the front seat such number of persons, as to obstruct the view of the driver to the front or sides of the vehicle, or to interfere with the driver's control over the driving mechanism of the vehicle.

(B) No passenger in a vehicle shall ride in a position as to interfere with the driver's view ahead or to the sides, or to interfere with the driver's control over the driving mechanism of the vehicle.

(C) No person shall open the door of a vehicle on the side available to moving traffic unless and until it is reasonably safe to do so, and can be done without interfering with the movement of other traffic, nor shall any person leave a door open on the side of a vehicle available to moving traffic for a period of time longer than necessary to load or unload passengers.

(D) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.70) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.116 OCCUPYING TRAVEL TRAILER WHILE IN MOTION.

(A) No person shall occupy any travel trailer or manufactured or mobile home while it is being used as a conveyance upon a street or highway.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.701) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.117 DRIVING UPON CLOSED HIGHWAY PROHIBITED.

(A) No person shall drive upon, along, or across a street or highway, or any part of a street or highway that has been closed in the process of its construction, reconstruction, or repair, and posted with appropriate signs by the authority having jurisdiction to close the highway.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth

degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.71)

§ 72.118 DRIVING UPON SIDEWALK AREA OR PATHS EXCLUSIVELY FOR BICYCLES.

(A) (1) No person shall drive any vehicle, other than a bicycle, upon a sidewalk or sidewalk area, except upon a permanent or duly authorized temporary driveway.

(2) Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting local authorities from regulating the operation of bicycles, except that no local authority may require that bicycles be operated on sidewalks. (R.C. § 4511.711(A)) (Rev. 2007)

(B) (1) No person shall operate a motor vehicle, snowmobile, or all-purpose vehicle upon any path set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles, when an appropriate sign giving notice of such use is posted on the path.

(2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any rule of the Director of Natural Resources governing the operation of motor vehicles, snowmobiles, all-purpose vehicles, and bicycles on lands under the Director's jurisdiction. (R.C. § 4511.713(A))

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. §§ 4511.711(B), 4511.713(B)) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.119 OBSTRUCTING PASSAGE OF OTHER VEHICLES.

(A) No driver shall enter an intersection or marked crosswalk, or drive onto any railroad grade crossing, unless there is sufficient space on the other side of the intersection, crosswalk, or grade crossing to accommodate the vehicle the driver is operating without obstructing the passage of other vehicles, pedestrians, or railroad trains, notwithstanding any traffic-control signal indication to proceed.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever

violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.712) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.120 FOLLOWING AN EMERGENCY OR PUBLIC VEHICLE PROHIBITED; APPROACHING STATIONARY PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLE WITH CAUTION.

(A) *Following an emergency or public vehicle prohibited.* The driver of any vehicle, other than an emergency vehicle or public safety vehicle on official business, shall not follow any emergency vehicle or public safety vehicle traveling in response to an alarm closer than 500 feet, or drive into or park the vehicle within the block where the fire apparatus has stopped in answer to a fire alarm, unless directed to do so by a police officer or a firefighter. (R.C. § 4511.72(A))

(B) *Approaching stationary public safety vehicle with caution.*

(1) The driver of a motor vehicle, upon approaching a stationary public safety vehicle, an emergency vehicle, or a road service vehicle that is displaying the appropriate visual signals by means of flashing, oscillating, or rotating lights, as prescribed in R.C. § 4513.17, shall do either of the following:

(a) If the driver of the motor vehicle is traveling on a highway that consists of at least two lanes that carry traffic in the same direction of travel as that of the driver's motor vehicle, the driver shall proceed with due caution and, if possible and with due regard to the road, weather, and traffic conditions, shall change lanes into a lane that is not adjacent to that of the stationary public safety vehicle, an emergency vehicle, or a road service vehicle.

(b) If the driver is not traveling on a highway of a type described in division (B)(1)(a) of this section, or if the driver is traveling on a highway of that type but it is not possible to change lanes or if to do so would be unsafe, the driver shall proceed with due caution, reduce the speed of the motor vehicle, and maintain a safe speed for the road, weather, and traffic conditions.

(2) This division (B) does not relieve the driver of a public safety vehicle, an emergency vehicle, or a road service vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons and property upon the highway.

(3) No person shall fail to drive a motor vehicle in compliance with divisions (B)(1)(a) or (B)(1)(b) of this section when so required by division (B) of this section. (R.C. § 4511.213(A) - (C)) (Rev. 2010)

(C) *Penalty.*

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(2) Notwithstanding § 130.99 or R.C. § 2929.28, upon a finding that a person operated a motor vehicle in violation of division (B)(3) of this section, the court, in addition to all other penalties provided by law, shall impose a fine of two times the usual amount imposed for the violation. (R.C. §§ 4511.213(D), 4511.72(B)) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.121 DRIVING OVER UNPROTECTED FIRE HOSE.

(A) No vehicle shall, without the consent of the fire department official in command, be driven over any unprotected hose of a fire department that is laid down on any street or private driveway to be used at any fire or alarm of fire.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. (R.C. § 4511.73) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.122 PLACING INJURIOUS MATERIAL ON HIGHWAY OR DEPOSITING LITTER FROM MOTOR VEHICLE.

(A) (1) No person shall place or knowingly drop upon any part of a highway, lane, road, street, or alley any tacks, bottles, wire, glass, nails, or other articles which may damage or injure any person, vehicle, or animal traveling along or upon the highway, except such substances that may be placed upon the roadway by proper authority for the repair or construction thereof.

(2) Any person who drops or permits to be dropped or thrown upon any highway any destructive or injurious material shall immediately remove the same.

(3) Any person authorized to remove a wrecked or damaged vehicle from a highway shall remove any glass or other injurious substance dropped upon the highway from such vehicle.

(4) No person shall place any obstruction in or upon a highway without proper authority.

(B) No person, with intent to cause physical harm to a person or a vehicle, shall place or knowingly drop upon any part of a highway, lane, road, street, or alley any tacks, bottles, wire, glass, nails, or other articles which may damage or injure any person, vehicle, or animal traveling along or upon such highway, except such substances that may be placed upon the roadway by proper authority for the repair or construction thereof.

(R.C. § 4511.74(A), (B))

(C) No operator or occupant of a motor vehicle shall, regardless of intent, throw, drop, discard, or deposit litter from any motor vehicle in operation upon any street, road, or highway, except into a litter receptacle in a manner that prevents its being carried away or deposited by the elements.

(D) No operator of a motor vehicle in operation upon any street, road, or highway shall allow litter to be thrown, dropped, discarded, or deposited from the motor vehicle, except into a litter receptacle in a manner that prevents its being carried away or deposited by the elements.

(E) As used in this section, *LITTER* means garbage, trash, waste, rubbish, ashes, cans, bottles, wire, paper, cartons, boxes, automobile parts, furniture, glass, or anything else of an unsightly or unsanitary nature.

(R.C. § 4511.82(A), (B), (D))

(F) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(2) Whoever violates division (B) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(R.C. § 4511.74(C)) (Rev. 2004)

(3) Whoever violates division (C) or (D) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

(R.C. § 4511.82(C)) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.123 TRANSPORTING CHILD NOT IN CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEM PROHIBITED.

(A) When any child who is in either or both of the following categories is being transported in a motor vehicle, other than a taxicab or public safety vehicle as defined in R.C. § 4511.01, that is required by the United States Department of Transportation to be equipped with seat belts at the time of manufacture or assembly, the operator of the motor vehicle shall have the child properly secured in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions in a child restraint system that meets federal motor vehicle safety standards:

(1) A child who is less than four years of age;

(2) A child who weighs less than 40 pounds.

(B) When any child who is in either or both of the following categories is being transported in a motor vehicle, other than a taxicab, that is owned, leased, or otherwise under the control of a nursery school or day-care center, the operator of the motor vehicle shall have the child properly secured in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions in a child restraint system that meets federal motor vehicle safety standards:

(1) A child who is less than four years of age;

(2) A child who weighs less than 40 pounds.

(C) When any child who is less than eight years of age and less than four feet nine inches in height, who is not required by division (A) or (B) of this section to be secured in a child restraint system, is being transported in a motor vehicle, other than a taxicab or public safety vehicle as defined in R.C. § 4511.01 or a vehicle that is regulated under R.C. § 5104.011, that is required by the United States Department of Transportation to be equipped with seat belts at the time of manufacture or assembly, the operator of the motor vehicle shall have the child properly secured in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions on a booster seat that meets federal motor vehicle safety standards.

(D) When any child who is at least eight years of age but not older than 15 years of age, and who is not otherwise required by division (A), (B), or (C) of this section to be secured in a child restraint system or booster seat, is being transported in a motor vehicle, other than a taxicab or public safety vehicle as defined in R.C. § 4511.01, that is required by the United States Department of Transportation to be equipped with seat belts at the time of manufacture or assembly, the operator of the motor vehicle shall have the child properly restrained either in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions in a child restraint system that meets federal motor vehicle safety standards or in an occupant restraining device as defined in R.C. § 4513.263.

(E) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no law enforcement officer shall cause an operator of a motor vehicle being operated on any street or highway

to stop the motor vehicle for the sole purpose of determining whether a violation of division (C) or (D) of this section has been or is being committed or for the sole purpose of issuing a ticket, citation, or summons for a violation of division (C) or (D) of this section or causing the arrest of or commencing a prosecution of a person for a violation of division (C) or (D) of this section, and absent another violation of law, a law enforcement officer's view of the interior or visual inspection of a motor vehicle being operated on any street or highway may not be used for the purpose of determining whether a violation of division (C) or (D) of this section has been or is being committed.

(F) The Director of Public Safety shall adopt such rules as are necessary to carry out this section.

(G) The failure of an operator of a motor vehicle to secure a child in a child restraint system, a booster seat, or an occupant restraining device as required in this section is not negligence imputable to the child, is not admissible as evidence in any civil action involving the rights of the child against any other person allegedly liable for injuries to the child, is not to be used as a basis for a criminal prosecution of the operator of the motor vehicle other than a prosecution for a violation of this section, and is not admissible as evidence in any criminal action involving the operator of the motor vehicle other than a prosecution for a violation of this section.

(H) This section does not apply when an emergency exists that threatens the life of any person operating or occupying a motor vehicle that is being used to transport a child who otherwise would be required to be restrained under this section. This section does not apply to a person operating a motor vehicle who has an affidavit signed by a physician licensed to practice in this state under R.C. Chapter 4731 or a chiropractor licensed to practice in this state under R.C. Chapter 4734 that states that the child who otherwise would be required to be restrained under this section has a physical impairment that makes use of a child restraint system, booster seat, or an occupant restraining device impossible or impractical, provided that the person operating the vehicle has safely and appropriately restrained the child in accordance with any recommendations of the physician or chiropractor as noted on the affidavit.

(I) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require any person to carry with the person the birth certificate of a child to prove the age of the child, but the production of a valid birth certificate for a child showing that the child was not of an age to which this section applies is a defense against any ticket, citation, or summons issued for violating this section.

(J) (1) Whoever violates division (A), (B), (C), or (D) of this section shall be punished as follows, provided that the failure of an operator of a motor vehicle to secure more than one child in a child restraint system, booster seat, or occupant restraining device as required by this section that occurred at the same time, on the same day, and at the

same location is deemed to be a single violation of this section:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (J)(1)(b) of this section, the offender is guilty of a minor misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than \$25 nor more than \$75.

(b) If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of division (A), (B), (C), or (D) of this section or of a state law or municipal ordinance that is substantially equivalent any of those divisions, the offender is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(2) All fines imposed pursuant to division (J)(1) of this section shall be forwarded to the State Treasurer for deposit in the Child Highway Safety Fund created by R.C. § 4511.81(I).

(R.C. § 4511.81(A) - (H), (K), (L)) (Rev. 2010)

§ 72.124 OCCUPANT RESTRAINING DEVICES.

(A) *Definitions.* As used in this section:

AUTOMOBILE. Means any commercial tractor, passenger car, commercial car, or truck that is required to be factory-equipped with an occupant restraining device for the operator or any passenger by regulations adopted by the United States Secretary of Transportation pursuant to the "National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966", 80 Stat. 719, 15 U.S.C. § 1392.

COMMERCIAL CAR. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 4501.01.

COMMERCIAL TRACTOR. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 4501.01.

OCCUPANT RESTRAINING DEVICE. A seat safety belt, shoulder belt, harness, or other safety device for restraining a person who is an operator of or passenger in an automobile and that satisfies the minimum federal vehicle safety standards established by the United States Department of Transportation.

PASSENGER. Any person in an automobile, other than its operator, who is occupying a seating position for which an occupant restraining device is provided.

PASSENGER CAR. Has the same meaning as in R.C. § 4501.01.

TORT ACTION. A civil action for damages for injury, death, or loss to person or property. The term includes a product liability claim, as defined in R.C. § 2307.71, and as asbestos claim, as defined in R.C. § 2307.91, but does not include a civil action for damages for breach of contract or another agreement between persons.

VEHICLE and **MOTOR VEHICLE**. As used in the definitions of the terms set forth above, **VEHICLE** and **MOTOR VEHICLE** have the same meanings as in R.C. § 4511.01.

(B) *Prohibited acts*. No person shall do any of the following:

(1) Operate an automobile on any street or highway unless he or she is wearing all of the available elements of a properly adjusted occupant restraining device, or operate a school bus that has an occupant restraining device installed for use in its operator's seat unless he or she is wearing all of the available elements of the device, as properly adjusted.

(2) Operate an automobile on any street or highway unless each passenger in the automobile who is subject to the requirement set forth in division (B)(3) of this section is wearing all of the available elements of a properly adjusted occupant restraining device.

(3) Occupy, as a passenger, a seating position on the front seat of an automobile being operated on any street or highway unless he or she is wearing all of the available elements of a properly adjusted occupant restraining device.

(4) Operate a taxicab on any street or highway unless all factory-equipped occupant restraining devices in the taxicab are maintained in usable form.

(C) *Exceptions*. Division (B)(3) of this section does not apply to a person who is required by R.C. § 4511.81 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance to be secured in a child restraint device or booster seat. Division (B)(1) of this section does not apply to a person who is an employee of the United States Postal Service or of a newspaper home delivery service, during any period in which the person is engaged in the operation of an automobile to deliver mail or newspapers to addressees. Divisions (B)(1) and (B)(3) of this section do not apply to a person who has an affidavit signed by a physician licensed to practice in this state under R.C. Chapter 4731 or a chiropractor licensed to practice in this state under R.C. Chapter 4734 that states that the person has a physical impairment that makes use of an occupant restraining device impossible or impractical.

(D) *Officers not permitted to stop cars to determine violation*. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no law enforcement officer shall cause an operator of an automobile being operated on any street or highway to stop the automobile for the sole purpose of determining whether a violation of division (B) of this section has been or is being committed or for the sole purpose of issuing a ticket, citation, or summons for the violation or for causing the arrest of or commencing a prosecution of a person for the violation. No law enforcement officer shall view the interior or visually inspect any automobile being operated on any street or highway for the sole purpose of determining whether the violation has been or is being committed.

(E) *Use of fines for educational program*. All fines collected for violations of division (B) of this section shall be forwarded to the State Treasurer for deposit in the funds as set forth in R.C. § 4513.263(E).

(F) *Limitations on evidence used for prosecution*.

(1) Subject to division (F)(2) of this section, the failure of a person to wear all of the available elements of a properly adjusted occupant restraining device in violation of division (B)(1) or (B)(3) of this section or the failure of a person to ensure that each minor who is a passenger of an automobile being operated by that person is wearing all of the available elements of a properly adjusted occupant restraining device in violation of division (B)(2) of this section shall not be considered or used by the trier of fact in a tort action as evidence of negligence or contributory negligence. But, the trier of fact may determine based on evidence admitted consistent with the Ohio Rules of Evidence that the failure contributed to the harm alleged in the tort action and may diminish a recovery of compensatory damages that represents non-economic loss, as defined in R.C. § 2307.011, in a tort action that could have been recovered but for the plaintiff's failure to wear all of the available elements of a properly adjusted occupant restraining device. Evidence of that failure shall not be used as a basis for a criminal prosecution of the person other than a prosecution for a violation of this section; and shall not be admissible as evidence in a criminal action involving the person other than a prosecution for a violation of this section.

(2) If, at the time of an accident involving a passenger car equipped with occupant restraining devices, any occupant of the passenger car who sustained injury or death was not wearing an available occupant restraining device, was not wearing all of the available elements of such a device, or was not wearing such a device as properly adjusted, then, consistent with the Rules of Evidence, the fact that the occupant was not wearing the available occupant restraining device, was not wearing all of the available elements of such a device, or was not wearing such a device as properly adjusted is admissible in evidence in relation to any claim for relief in a tort action to the extent that the claim for relief satisfies all of the following:

(a) It seeks to recover damages for injury or death to the occupant;

(b) The defendant in question is the manufacturer, designer, distributor, or seller of the passenger car;

(c) The claim for relief against the defendant in question is that the injury or death sustained by the occupant was enhanced or aggravated by some design defect in the passenger car or that the passenger car was not crashworthy.

(G) *Penalty.*

(1) Whoever violates division (B)(1) of this section shall be fined \$30.

(2) Whoever violates division (B)(2) shall be subject to the penalty set forth in § 70.99(B).

(3) Whoever violates division (B)(3) of this section shall be fined \$20.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates division (B)(4) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of division (B)(4) of this section, whoever violates division (B)(4) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(R.C. § 4513.263) (Rev. 2010)

Cross-reference:

Child restraint systems, see § 72.123

Installation and sale of seat safety belts, see § 74.33

School bus operators, restraining devices, see § 72.099

§ 72.125 USE OF ENGINE BRAKES PROHIBITED.

(A) The non-emergency use of engine brakes within the municipality is prohibited.

(B) As used in this section, **ENGINE BRAKES** shall be defined to include but is not limited to Jake Brakes, Jacobs Brakes, C Brakes, PacBrakes, TekBrakes, and any other type of engine retarders commonly utilized within the trucking industry.

(C) This section does not apply to emergency vehicles operated by fire, police, or military units.

(D) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
(Rev. 2007)

§ 72.126 OPERATING MOTOR VEHICLE WHILE WEARING EARPHONES OR EARPLUGS.

(A) No person shall operate a motor vehicle while wearing earphones over, or earplugs in, both ears. As used in this section, **EARPHONES** means any headset, radio, tape player, or other similar device that provides the listener with radio programs, music, or other recorded information through a device attached to the head and that covers all or a portion of both ears. The term does not include speakers or other listening devices that are built into protective headgear.

(B) This section does not apply to:

(1) Any person wearing a hearing aid;

(2) Law enforcement personnel while on duty;

(3) Fire department personnel and emergency medical service personnel while on duty;

(4) Any person operating equipment for use in the maintenance or repair of any highway;

(5) Any person engaged in the operation of refuse collection equipment.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(R.C. § 4511.84) (Rev. 2004)

§ 72.127 CHAUFFEURED LIMOUSINES AND LIVERY SERVICES.

(A) The operator of a chauffeured limousine shall accept passengers only on the basis of prearranged contracts, as defined in R.C. § 4501.01, and shall not cruise in search of patronage unless the limousine is in compliance with any statute or ordinance governing the operation of taxicabs or other similar vehicles for hire.

(B) No person shall advertise or hold himself or herself out as doing business as a limousine service or livery service or other similar designation unless each vehicle used by the person to provide the service is registered in accordance with R.C. § 4503.24 and is in compliance with R.C. § 4509.80.

(C) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(R.C. § 4511.85) (Rev. 2004)

Statutory reference:

Chauffeured limousine, motor vehicle licensing, see R.C. § 4503.24

Proof of financial responsibility, see R.C. § 4509.80

§ 72.128 OPERATING TRACTION ENGINE UPON IMPROVED HIGHWAYS.

(A) No person shall drive over the improved highways of this municipality a traction engine or tractor with tires or wheels equipped with ice picks, spuds, spikes, chains or other projections of any kind extending beyond the cleats, and no person shall tow or in any way pull another vehicle over the improved highways of this municipality which towed or pulled vehicle has tires or wheels equipped with ice picks, spuds, spikes, chains or other projections of any kind.

As used in this section, "traction engine" or "tractor" applies to all self-propelling engines equipped with metal-tired wheels operated or propelled by any form of engine, motor or mechanical power.

(B) This municipality shall not adopt, enforce, or maintain any ordinance, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with division (A), nor shall this municipality require any license tax upon or registration fee for any traction engine, tractor, or trailer, or any permit or license to operate. Operators of traction engines or tractors shall have the same rights upon the public streets and highways as the drivers of any other vehicles, unless some other safe and convenient way is provided, and no public road open to traffic shall be closed to traction engines or tractors.
(R.C. § 5589.08)

(C) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
(R.C. § 5589.99(B))

§ 72.129 CRACKING EXHAUST NOISES; PEELING OUT.

No person shall operate any motor vehicle, except when necessary for safe operation, or in compliance with law, in such a manner that the vehicle is so rapidly accelerated or started from a stopped position, or in the shifting of gears while in motion, that the exhaust system emits a loud, cracking or chattering noise unusual to its normal operation, or that the rubber tires of such vehicle squeal or leave tire marks on the roadway, commonly known as "peeling out".
(Rev. 2002) Penalty, see § 70.99

§ 72.130 SHORTCUTTING ACROSS PRIVATE PROPERTY.

No operator of a motor vehicle shall enter upon private property for the sole purpose of driving across such property, between abutting streets or other public ways thereof. The failure to stop on such property in connection with or in furtherance of the enterprise or activities being conducted on the property shall constitute prima facie evidence of the violation.
(Rev. 2002) Penalty, see § 70.99

