

## CHAPTER 24

EQUIPMENT FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES  
AND OTHER SPECIFIED VEHICLES

## Authority

N.J.S.A. 39:1-1, 39:2-3, 39:3-43, 39:3-50, 39:3-54,  
39:3-54.7 et seq. and 39:3-69.

## Source and Effective Date

R.1999 d.358, effective September 23, 1999.  
See: 31 N.J.R. 1901(a), 31 N.J.R. 3093(a).

## Executive Order No. 66(1978) Expiration Date

Chapter 24, Equipment for Emergency Vehicles and Other Specified Vehicles, expires on September 23, 2004.

## Chapter Historical Note

Chapter 24, Emergency Vehicle Equipment, was filed and became effective prior to September 1, 1969.

Subchapter 5, Identification Lights, was repealed by R.1979 d.372, effective September 20, 1979. See: 11 N.J.R. 580(b).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Subchapter 4, Flashing Amber Light Permit, was readopted as R.1984 d.442, effective September 14, 1984. See: 16 N.J.R. 2061(a), 16 N.J.R. 2679(b).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 24, Equipment for Emergency Vehicles and Other Specified Vehicles, was readopted as R.1989 d.542, effective September 27, 1989, and Subchapter 5, Blue Emergency Warning Lights, and Subchapter 6, Special Amber Identification Lights (Licensed Private Detective Businesses), were adopted as new rules by R.1989 d.542, effective October 16, 1989. See: 21 N.J.R. 2460(a), 21 N.J.R. 3299(c).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 24, Equipment for Emergency Vehicles and Other Specified Vehicles, was readopted as R.1994 d.533, effective September 26, 1994. See: 26 N.J.R. 2865(a), 26 N.J.R. 4631(b).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 24, Equipment for Emergency Vehicles and Other Specified Vehicles, was readopted as R.1999 d.358, effective September 23, 1999, and Subchapter 7, Blue Emergency Warning Lights (Civil Air Patrol), was adopted as new rules by R.1999 d.358, effective October 18, 1999. See: Source and Effective Date. See, also, section annotations.

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## SUBCHAPTER 1. DEFINITIONS

## 13:24-1.1 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

“Authorized emergency vehicle” means a vehicle of the fire department, police vehicles and such ambulances and

other vehicles as are approved by the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Transportation, when operated in response to an emergency call. Any vehicle that is licensed as an ambulance by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services in accordance with N.J.A.C. 8:40 or as a mobile intensive care unit in accordance with N.J.A.C. 8:41 and any ambulance of a volunteer first aid, rescue or ambulance squad that has been certified as qualified for emergency medical service programs in accordance with N.J.S.A. 27:5F-27, and any "first response" vehicle or other vehicle of a volunteer first aid, rescue or ambulance squad that bears governmental or other "no fee" registration, shall be considered approved as an authorized emergency vehicle for purposes of N.J.S.A. 39:1-1 and this chapter when operated in response to an emergency. Any vehicle of the State Office of Emergency Management or of a county or municipal Office of Emergency Management that bears governmental registration shall be considered approved as an authorized emergency vehicle for purposes of N.J.S.A. 39:1-1 and this chapter when operated in response to an emergency. Any vehicle bearing governmental registration, when being operated by a county medical examiner or his or her deputy, assistant, or investigator to travel to the scene of a death in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:17B-87, shall be considered approved as an authorized emergency vehicle for purposes of N.J.S.A. 39:1-1 and this chapter. Any vehicle bearing governmental registration, when being operated by a "fire official" or "fire inspector" as defined in N.J.A.C. 5:71-1.4 to travel to the scene of a fire or explosion in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:71-3.3, shall be considered approved as an authorized emergency vehicle for purposes of N.J.S.A. 39:1-1 and this chapter.

"Director" means the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Transportation in the State of New Jersey.

"Division" means the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Transportation in the State of New Jersey.

"Flashing light" means a lamp with an intermittent or revolving action.

"Service vehicle" means any vehicle bearing commercial registration that is used to perform some type of maintenance, inspection, or repair function within the confines of public highways or any vehicle used to transport or escort overdimensional loads on public highways.

"Wrecker" means any vehicle bearing commercial registration designed and used to tow other vehicles with at least two wheels of the towed vehicle off the ground and includes flatbed trucks designed and used to retrieve and transport other vehicles on a flat bed.

Amended by R.1989 d.542, effective October 16, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 2460(a), 21 N.J.R. 3299(c).

Added language to definition "Authorized emergency vehicle".

Added new definitions: "Director"; "Service vehicle"; and "Wrecker".

Amended by R.1991 d.205, effective April 15, 1991.

See: 22 N.J.R. 902(a), 23 N.J.R. 1197(a).

Added language to definition "authorized emergency vehicle" to include any vehicle bearing governmental registration, operated by a county medical examiner or his or her deputy or assistant to travel to the scene of a death in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:17B-87.

Amended by R.1999 d.358, effective October 18, 1999.

See: 31 N.J.R. 1901(a), 31 N.J.R. 3093(a).

Rewrote the section.

Amended by R.2001 d.102, effective March 19, 2001.

See: 32 N.J.R. 4050(a), 33 N.J.R. 1006(b).

In "Authorized emergency vehicle", rewrote the second sentence, inserted a reference to "fire inspector" and amended an N.J.A.C. reference in the last sentence.

## SUBCHAPTER 2. EMERGENCY LIGHTS AND SIRENS; RED EMERGENCY LIGHT AND SIREN PERMITS

### 13:24-2.1 Red lights on vehicles

(a) No vehicle equipped with a red light, when such light is visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be used on any street or highway, with the following exceptions:

1. An authorized emergency vehicle;
2. An authorized school bus;
3. A frozen dessert truck as defined in N.J.S.A. 39:4-128.3;
4. An omnibus equipped in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:3-54(b); or
5. A vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

(b) A red light permit is not required for those vehicles set forth in (a)1 to 4 above.

### 13:24-2.2 Flashing lights on vehicles

(a) No vehicle shall be equipped with and no person shall use upon any vehicle any flashing lights except as a means for indicating right or left turns or for the purpose of warning of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard; provided, however, that a vehicle may be equipped with flashing lights of a type approved by the Director if it falls into one of the categories of vehicles set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:24-2.1(a)1 to 5 or as otherwise provided in this chapter.

(b) An authorized emergency vehicle as defined in N.J.S.A. 39:1-1 and this chapter may be equipped with flashing red emergency lights, or with a combination of flashing red and blue emergency lights. A permit is not required for such flashing emergency warning lights.

(c) A red light permit is not required for a school bus which is equipped with flashing red lights.