

**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.2005 d.114, effective March 10, 2005.  
 See: 36 N.J.R. 4675(a), 37 N.J.R. 1032(a).

**Chapter Expiration Date**

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 1(2010), the chapter expiration date is extended from March 10, 2010 until the completion of the review of administrative regulations and rules by the Red Tape Review Group, and until such time as the extended regulation or rule is readopted pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq.

**Chapter Historical Note**

Chapter 24, Emergency Vehicle Equipment, was adopted 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Subchapter 5, Identification Lights, was repealed by R.1979 d.372, effective September 20, 1979.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: 31 N.J.R. 1901(a), 31 N.J.R. 3093(a).

Chapter 24, Equipment for Emergency Vehicles and Other Specified Vehicles, was readopted as R.2005 d.114, effective March 10, 2005. See: Source and Effective Date. See, also, section annotations.

Subchapter 8, Blue Emergency Warning Lights (Emergency Management Volunteers), was adopted as new rules by R.2007 d.237, effective August 6, 2007. See: 39 N.J.R. 617(a), 39 N.J.R. 3393(a).

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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 Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission, 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 or a specialty care transport 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, and any “first response” vehicle of a hospital 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 of the New Jersey Office of Counter-Terrorism 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. Any vehicle bearing governmental registration, when being operated by a member, officer, or agent of the New Jersey Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals or of a district or county society for the prevention of cruelty to animals for purposes of enforcing N.J.S.A. 4:22-1 et seq., shall be considered approved as an authorized emergency vehicle for purposes of N.J.S.A. 39:1-1 and this chapter.

“Chief Administrator” means the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

“Commission” means the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission established by section 4 of P.L. 2003, c.13 (N.J.S.A. 39:2A-4).

“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 over-dimensional loads on public highways.

“Tow truck” means a motor vehicle bearing commercial registration that is equipped with a boom or booms, winches, slings, tilt beds, or similar equipment and that is designed and used for the towing, recovery, or removal of vehicles.

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.

Amended by R.2001 d.295, effective August 20, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 2042(a), 33 N.J.R. 2819(a).

In the second sentence of “Authorized emergency vehicle”, inserted reference to hospital first response vehicle bearing no fee registration.

Amended by R.2005 d.114, effective April 4, 2005.

See: 36 N.J.R. 4675(a), 37 N.J.R. 1032(a).

Rewrote “Authorized emergency vehicle”; added “Chief Administrator”, “Commission” and “Tow truck”; deleted “Director”, “Division” and “Wrecker”.

## 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 Chief Administrator.