

State of Utah	REF. NR-95-C-6	PAGE 1 of 3
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	EFFECTIVE DATE	5/30/95
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	REVISION DATE	
SUBJECT: Emergency Vehicular Warning Devices		
Ted Stewart, Executive Director		

I. PURPOSE

To define the policy of the Department of Natural Resources for the use of emergency vehicular warning devices.

II. POLICY

All peace officers of this department shall adhere to statutory restrictions on the use of emergency warning devices and that such devices are employed only in prescribed conditions and circumstances and in ways that will minimize the risk of accidents or injuries to employees or the public.

III. DEFINITIONS/PRIVILEGES

- A. Emergency Vehicle: An authorized law enforcement vehicle equipped with emergency warning devices and mobile radio used for emergency response situations.
- B. Emergency Warning Devices: Devices placed in or on department vehicle that emit audible and visual signals in order to warn others that an emergency law enforcement vehicle is in operation.
- C. Authorizations granted under 41-6-14 apply to an emergency vehicle operation only when the vehicle emits an audible signal capable of being heard under normal conditions from a distance of not less than 500 feet OR casts a visual signal which is visible from in front of the vehicle, and includes at least two alternately flashing lights or rotating beams of light. Emergency vehicles are authorized the following operation exemptions:
 - 1. Park or stand irrespective of the provisions of the Motor Vehicle Code.
 - 2. Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation.
 - 3. Exceed the maximum speed limits if the operator does not endanger life or property.

State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	REF. NR-95-C-6	PAGE 2 of 3
	EFFECTIVE DATE 5/30/95	
	REVISION DATE	
SUBJECT: Emergency Vehicular Warning Devices		
Ted Stewart, Executive Director		

4. Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions.

IV. PROCEDURES

- A. Use of emergency warning devices while conducting vehicle stops.
 1. Audible or visible warning devices shall be used to make adequate notice of intent to stop a motor vehicle and to provide a safe environment for the vehicle operator, officer, and public.
 2. A siren shall not be used except when such emergency vehicle is operated in response to an emergency call or in the immediate pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law.
- B. Discretionary use of emergency warning devices.
 1. Officers may activate emergency signal devices when required to assist in handling any perceived emergency situation.
 2. In other than emergency situations, when expediency is required to effectively eliminate a potential hazard to the public or fellow officers, law enforcement officers may activate emergency warning devices to allow orderly and safe transit through heavily congested roadways.
- C. Use of emergency warning devices while in an emergency response mode.
 1. During an emergency response, emergency lights and siren shall be activated.
 2. When responding in the emergency mode during daylight hours, the headlight flashers of the emergency vehicle shall be activated to augment the emergency vehicle's visibility.

State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	REF. NR-95-C-6	PAGE 3 of 3
	EFFECTIVE DATE 5/30/95	
	REVISION DATE	
SUBJECT: Emergency Vehicular Warning Devices		
Ted Stewart, Executive Director		

3. During an emergency response, four-way flashers shall not be used when the emergency vehicle is in motion.
 4. Spotlights, if used, shall have a red or blue lens cover and shall not be directed at the windshield of oncoming traffic.
 5. When responding in an emergency response mode, emergency signal devices may be deactivated at a distance from the scene (to be determined by the vehicle operator) so as to not alert subjects to law enforcement proximity.
- D. Termination of emergency operations.
1. Operators of emergency vehicles shall deactivate emergency warning devices as soon as circumstances permit.
 2. When emergency signal devices are deactivated, the operator of the emergency vehicle shall comply with posted speed limits, obey all traffic control devices and signals, and proceed in a manner consistent with normal traffic flow.