
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1331 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY GAYDOS, PISCIOTTANO, STAMBAUGH, BROOKS, HILL-
EVANS, CONKLIN, SAINATO, ROWE AND GILLEN, MAY 5, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, MAY 5, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in preliminary provisions, further providing for
3 definitions; and, in other required equipment, further
4 providing for visual and audible signals on emergency
5 vehicles.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. The definitions of "emergency service responder"
9 and "emergency vehicle" in section 102 of Title 75 of the
10 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

11 § 102. Definitions.

12 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent
13 provisions of this title which are applicable to specific
14 provisions of this title, the following words and phrases when
15 used in this title shall have, unless the context clearly
16 indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

17 * * *

18 "Emergency service responder." An individual acting in an
19 official capacity as any of the following:

- 1 (1) A police officer.
- 2 (2) A sheriff or deputy sheriff.
- 3 (3) A coroner or deputy coroner.
- 4 (4) A firefighter.
- 5 (5) Fire police.
- 6 (6) A fire marshal.
- 7 (7) A medical examiner or deputy medical examiner.
- 8 (8) Rescue personnel.
- 9 (9) Ambulance personnel.
- 10 (10) Towing and recovery personnel.
- 11 (11) Highway maintenance and construction personnel.
- 12 (12) Hazardous material response team member.
- 13 (13) Emergency medical services personnel, including
- 14 tactical emergency medical services personnel.

15 (14) Contractors or employees of a public utility as
16 defined under 66 Pa.C.S. § 102 (relating to definitions), a
17 municipally owned utility or an electric cooperative as
18 defined in 15 Pa.C.S. Ch. 73 (relating to electric
19 cooperative corporations).

20 (15) A police officer who is also a member of a county
21 or regional municipal special emergency response team which
22 is authorized to respond to emergencies under 42 Pa.C.S. §
23 8953 (relating to Statewide municipal police jurisdiction).

24 "Emergency vehicle." A State or county emergency management
25 vehicle, fire department vehicle, police vehicle, sheriff
26 vehicle, ambulance, advanced life support squad vehicle, basic
27 life support squad vehicle, emergency canteen support service
28 organization vehicle, blood delivery vehicle, human organ
29 delivery vehicle, hazardous material response vehicle, armed
30 forces emergency vehicle, one vehicle operated by a coroner or

1 chief county medical examiner and one vehicle operated by a
2 chief deputy coroner or deputy chief county medical examiner
3 used for answering emergency calls, a vehicle owned by or leased
4 to a regional emergency medical services council that is used as
5 authorized by the Department of Health to respond to an actual
6 or potential disaster, mass casualty situation or substantial
7 threat to public health, a vehicle owned by a county or regional
8 police association and operated by a police officer that is used
9 for police transport or victim extraction, a vehicle that is
10 owned and operated by a county correctional institution in a
11 city of the first class and used to respond to an emergency at a
12 correctional institution in a city of the first class or to
13 escort an ambulance which is transporting sick or injured
14 prisoners in a city of the first class, any vehicle operated by
15 a special agent, special agent supervisor, narcotics agent or
16 narcotics agent supervisor while performing official duties as
17 employees of the Office of Attorney General, any vehicle owned
18 and operated by the Philadelphia Parking Authority established
19 in accordance with 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 55 (relating to parking
20 authorities) and used in the enforcement of 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 57
21 (relating to taxicabs and limousines in first class cities), a
22 vehicle owned by a city of the first class and operated by first
23 judicial district certified armed probation officers, a vehicle
24 owned and operated by the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission that
25 is used by an emergency service responder as dispatched by the
26 Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission's traffic operations center, or
27 any other vehicle designated by the State Police under section
28 6106 (relating to designation of emergency vehicles by
29 Pennsylvania State Police), or a privately owned vehicle used in
30 answering an emergency call when used by any of the following:

- 1 (1) A police chief and assistant chief.
- 2 (2) A fire chief, assistant chief and, when a fire
3 company has three or more fire vehicles, a second or third
4 assistant chief.
- 5 (3) A fire police captain and fire police lieutenant.
- 6 (4) An ambulance corps commander and assistant
7 commander.
- 8 (5) A river rescue commander and assistant commander.
- 9 (6) A county emergency management coordinator.
- 10 (7) A fire marshal.
- 11 (8) A rescue service chief and assistant chief.
- 12 (9) The chief or operations director of a county
13 hazardous materials response team.

14 (10) A police officer who is also a member of a county
15 or regional municipal special emergency response team which
16 is authorized to respond to emergencies under 42 Pa.C.S. §
17 8953 (relating to Statewide municipal police jurisdiction).

18 (11) An emergency medical services agency or authorized
19 emergency medical services provider that provides tactical
20 emergency medical services to law enforcement under 35
21 Pa.C.S. § 8136 (relating to special operations emergency
22 medical services).

23 * * *

24 Section 2. Section 4571(b.2) of Title 75 is amended to read:
25 § 4571. Visual and audible signals on emergency vehicles.

26 * * *

27 (b.2) Police officer special emergency response team members
28 and tactical emergency medical services response team members.--
29 A privately owned vehicle used in responding to an emergency
30 under 42 Pa.C.S. § 8953 (relating to Statewide municipal police

1 jurisdiction) by a police officer who is also a member of a
2 county or regional special emergency response team or a
3 privately owned vehicle used in responding to an emergency in
4 accordance with all other applicable laws by any member of a
5 tactical emergency medical services response team shall be
6 equipped with revolving or flashing red lights and an audible
7 warning system in accordance with subsection (a) subject to the
8 lights and audible warning system being returned to the head of
9 the special emergency response team upon termination of a
10 person's active status as a police officer or active member of a
11 special emergency response team or active member of a tactical
12 emergency medical services team.

13 * * *

14 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.