

YIELD

TO EMERGENCY VEHICLES

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**OHIO DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC SAFETY**
EDUCATION • SERVICE • PROTECTION

Ted Strickland, Governor
Cathy Collins-Taylor, Director

www.publicsafety.ohio.gov



It Could Save Your Life

Always Yield to Emergency Vehicles. You Could be Saving a Life.

Every day, emergency vehicles respond to urgent requests for service from the public. The call may be for an armed robbery in progress, a baby who has stopped breathing or a fire alarm. Minimum response time by the emergency services is essential. Precious time lost while on the way to an emergency could be the difference between life and death.

As a driver, it is your responsibility to know what to do when approaching an emergency vehicle or passing a stationary emergency vehicle.

Over the past several years in Ohio, more than 20 public safety vehicles have been involved in fatal crashes; 3,500 in injury crashes; and 8,000 in property damage crashes.

Rules to Live By: It's the Law

By state law, when driving, you must yield to the right for all moving public safety vehicles. You must yield to the left, if possible, for all stationary public safety vehicles.

Moving Public Safety Vehicles with Lights and Sirens

Traffic in both directions must pull to the right and stop. As a motorist, you should stop and pull to the right prior to an intersection and always yield to all public safety vehicles turning left. Always make sure all public safety vehicles have passed before proceeding.

Stationary Public Safety Vehicles with Lights

When approaching any stationary public safety vehicle that is displaying flashing lights, a driver needs to slow down and move as far to the left as the road conditions will allow while passing the public safety vehicle. Motorists must change lanes away from the public safety vehicle if traveling on a multi-lane highway. If motorists are unable to change lanes safely, or if traveling on a two-lane highway, they must slow down and proceed with caution.