

313.09 DRIVER'S DUTIES UPON APPROACHING AMBIGUOUS OR NON- WORKING TRAFFIC SIGNAL.

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CHAPTER 313 Traffic Control Devices

313.05 SPECIAL PEDESTRIAN CONTROL SIGNALS.

(a) Whenever special pedestrian control signals exhibiting the words “walk” or “don’t walk”, or the symbol of a walking person or an upraised palm are in place, such signals shall indicate the following instructions:

(1) A steady walking person signal indication, which symbolizes “walk”, means that a pedestrian facing the signal indication is permitted to start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal indication, possibly in conflict with turning vehicles. The pedestrian shall yield the right-of-way to vehicles lawfully within the intersection at the time that the walking person signal indication is first shown.

(2) A flashing upraised hand signal indication, which symbolizes “don’t walk”, means that a pedestrian shall not start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal indication, but that any pedestrian who has already started to cross on a steady walking person signal indication shall proceed to the far side of the traveled way of the street or highway, unless otherwise directed by a traffic control device to proceed only to the median of a divided highway or only to some other island or pedestrian refuge area.

(3) A steady upraised hand signal indication means that a pedestrian shall not enter the roadway in the direction of the signal indication.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to invalidate the continued use of pedestrian control signals utilizing the word “wait” if those signals were installed prior to March 28, 1985.

(5) A flashing walking person signal indication has no meaning and shall not be used. (ORC 4511.14)

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(ORC 4511.99)

313.06 FLASHING TRAFFIC SIGNALS.

(Former Ohio R.C. 4511.15 from which Section 313.06 was derived was repealed by House Bill 349, effective April 20, 2012.)

313.07 UNAUTHORIZED SIGNS AND SIGNALS, HIDING FROM VIEW, ADVERTISING.

(a) No person shall place, maintain or display upon or in view of any street any unauthorized sign, signal, marking or device which purports to be, is an imitation of or resembles a traffic control device or railroad sign or signal, or which attempts to direct the movement of traffic, or hides from view or interferes with the effectiveness of any traffic control device or any railroad sign or signal, and no person shall place or maintain, nor shall any public authority permit upon any street any traffic sign or signal bearing thereon any commercial advertising. This section does not prohibit either the erection upon private property adjacent to streets of signs giving useful directional information and of a type that cannot be mistaken for traffic control devices, or the erection upon private property of traffic control devices by the owner of real property in accordance with Ohio R.C. 4511.211 and 4511.432.

Every such prohibited sign, signal, marking or device is a public nuisance, and the Police Chief is authorized to remove it or cause it to be removed.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever violates this section is guilty of a

minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(ORC 4511.16)

313.08 ALTERATION, INJURY, REMOVAL OF TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES.

(a) No person without lawful authority, shall do any of the following:

(1) Knowingly move, deface, damage, destroy or otherwise improperly tamper with any traffic control device, any railroad sign or signal, or any inscription, shield or insignia on the device, sign or signal, or any part of the device, sign or signal;

(2) Knowingly drive upon or over any freshly applied pavement marking material on the surface of a roadway while the marking material is in an undried condition and is marked by flags, markers, signs or other devices intended to protect it;

(3) Knowingly move, damage, destroy or otherwise improperly tamper with a manhole cover.

(b) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever violates subsection (a)(1) or (3) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. If a violation of subsection (a)(1) or (3) of this section creates a risk of physical harm to any person, the offender is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. If a violation of subsection (a)(1) or (3) of this section causes serious physical harm to property that is owned, leased, or controlled by a state or local authority, the offender is guilty of a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate state law.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever violates subsection (a)(2) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates subsection (a)(2) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates subsection (a)(2) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(ORC 4511.17)

313.09 DRIVER'S DUTIES UPON APPROACHING AMBIGUOUS OR NON-WORKING TRAFFIC SIGNAL.

(a) The driver of a vehicle who approaches an intersection where traffic is controlled by highway traffic signals shall do all of the following if the signal facing the driver exhibits no colored lights or colored lighted arrows, exhibits a combination of such lights or arrows that fails to clearly indicate the assignment of right of way, or, if the vehicle is a bicycle or an electric bicycle, the signals are otherwise malfunctioning due to the failure of a vehicle detector to detect the presence of the bicycle or electric bicycle.

(1) Stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or, if none, stop before entering the intersection;

(2) Yield the right of way to all vehicles in the intersection or approaching on an intersecting road, if the vehicles will constitute an immediate hazard during the time the driver is moving across or within the intersection or junction of roadways.

(3) Exercise ordinary care while proceeding through the intersection.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender

previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the additional fine established under Section 303.991 of the Traffic Code.

(ORC 4511.132)

313.10 UNLAWFUL PURCHASE, POSSESSION OR SALE.

(a) As used in this section, "traffic control device" means any sign, highway traffic signal or other device conforming to and placed or erected in accordance with the manual adopted under Ohio R.C. 4511.09 by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction, for the purpose of regulating, warning or guiding traffic, including signs denoting the names of streets and highways, but does not mean any pavement marking.

(b) No individual shall buy or otherwise possess or sell, a traffic control device, except when one of the following applies:

(1) In the course of the individual's employment by the State or a local authority for the express or implied purpose of manufacturing, providing, erecting, moving or removing such a traffic control device;

(2) In the course of the individual's employment by any manufacturer of traffic control devices other than a State or local authority;

(3) For the purpose of demonstrating the design and function of a traffic control device to State or local officials;

(4) When the traffic control device has been purchased from the State or a local authority at a sale of property that is no longer needed or is unfit for use;

(5) The traffic control device has been properly purchased from a manufacturer for use on private property and the person possessing the device has a sales receipt for the device or other acknowledgment of sale issued by the manufacturer.

(c) This section does not preclude, and shall not be construed as precluding, prosecution for theft in violation of Ohio R.C. 2913.02 or a municipal ordinance relating to theft, or for receiving stolen property in violation of Ohio R.C. 2913.51 or a municipal ordinance relating to receiving stolen property.

(d) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(ORC 4511.18)

313.11 PORTABLE SIGNAL PREEMPTION DEVICES PROHIBITED.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) **HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE VEHICLE.** A vehicle used in snow and ice removal, including a snow plow, when it is owned by a political subdivision and operated by an employee of that political subdivision.

(2) **PEACE OFFICER.** Has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 109.71(A)(1), (A)(12), (A)(14), and (A)(19).

(3) **PORTABLE SIGNAL PREEMPTION DEVICE.** A device that, if activated by a person, is capable of changing a highway traffic signal to green out of sequence.

(4) **PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLE.** Has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 4511.01(E)(1), (E)(3), and (E)(4).

(b) Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d) of this section:

(1) No person shall possess a portable signal preemption device.

(2) No person shall use a portable signal preemption device to affect the operation of the highway traffic signal.

(c) Subsection (b)(1) of this section does not apply to any of the following persons:

- (1) A peace officer;
- (2) A state highway patrol trooper;
- (3) A person while occupying a public safety vehicle;
- (4) The authorized employee operator of a highway maintenance vehicle.

(d) Subsection (b)(2) of this section does not apply under either of the following circumstances:

- (1) When a person listed in subsections (c)(1) to (c)(3) of this section is responding to an emergency call;
- (2) When a person listed in subsection (c)(4) of this section is responding to an emergency level two or level three weather event.

(e) Whoever violates subsection (b)(1) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. Whoever violates subsection (b)(2) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. (ORC 4511.031)

313.12 BICYCLE SYMBOL SIGNAL INDICATIONS.

Bicycle symbol signal indications have the following meanings:

(a) A steady green bicycle signal indication means that bicyclists are permitted to enter the intersection only to make the movement indicated by the lane-use arrow displayed on the bicycle signal sign that is located immediately adjacent to the bicycle signal face. Bicyclists proceeding into the intersection during the display of the indication shall yield the right-of-way to both of the following:

- (1) Pedestrians lawfully within an associated crosswalk;
- (2) Other vehicles lawfully within the intersection.

(b) A steady yellow bicycle signal indication means that bicyclists are warned that the related green movement is being terminated and that a steady red bicycle signal indication will be displayed immediately thereafter when bicyclists shall not enter the intersection. The provisions governing bicyclist operations under the movement being terminated continue to apply while the steady yellow bicycle signal indication is displayed.

(c) (1) A steady red bicycle signal indication means that bicyclists shall not enter the intersection to make the movement indicated by the lane-use arrow displayed on the bicycle signal sign that is located immediately adjacent to the bicycle signal face. Unless the bicyclist is entering the intersection to make another movement permitted by another bicycle symbol signal indication, the bicyclist shall stop at a clearly marked stop line; but if there is no stop line, shall stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection; or if there is no crosswalk, shall stop before entering the intersection; and shall remain stopped until a green bicycle signal indication to proceed is displayed.

(2) Except when a traffic control device is in place prohibiting a turn on red, bicyclists facing a steady red bicycle signal indication are permitted to enter the intersection to turn right if there are no approach lanes for motor vehicle traffic to their right. The right to proceed with the turn is subject to the provisions that are applicable after making a stop at a stop sign.

(d) A flashing green bicycle signal indication and a flashing yellow bicycle signal indication have no meaning and shall not be used.

(e) A flashing red bicycle signal indication means that bicyclists shall stop at a clearly marked stop line; but if there is no stop line, shall stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of

the intersection; or if there is no crosswalk, shall stop at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the bicyclists have a view of approaching traffic on that roadway before entering the intersection. The right to make the movement indicated by the lane-use arrow displayed on the bicycle signal sign that is located immediately adjacent to the bicycle signal face is subject to the provisions that are applicable after making a stop at a stop sign.

(ORC 4511.15)

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- ords “walk” or “don’t walk”, or the symbol of a walking person or an upraised palm are in place, such signals shall indicate the following instructions:
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- effectiveness of any traffic control device or any railroad sign or signal, and no person shall place or maintain, nor shall any public authority permit upon any street any traffic sign or
- ordance with Ohio R
- ordinary care while proceeding through the intersection
- ordance with the manual adopted under Ohio R
- ordinance relating to theft, or for receiving stolen property in violation of Ohio R
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