

HEAR US - SEE US - CLEAR FOR US

C – L – E – A – R for emergency vehicles.

C – Calmly pull to and as close to the right edge of the roadway as possible and stop.

L – Leave room. Keep intersections clear and never try to follow emergency vehicles.

E – Enter into traffic with caution after the emergency vehicle has passed. Remember to use signals.

A – Aware (be). Be aware of your surroundings. Keep radio volume low and check rear view mirrors frequently.

R – Remain stopped until the emergency vehicle has passed. Be mindful that there may be additional emergency vehicles approaching.

When approached by an emergency vehicle – the law requests you to pull over to the right edge of the roadway and yield the right of way to the emergency vehicle. An emergency vehicle is one with emergency warning lights activated or emergency warning lights activated and an audible siren. When driving and approaching an emergency scene – slow down and move over. In other words - “Give us a brake!”

Reduce the risk of an accident near an emergency scene and around emergency equipment. **Stay alert** – expect anything to occur when approaching emergency vehicles. **Pay close attention** – watch for police, fire, or ems direction. **Turn on your headlights** – let on scene workers and other motorists see you. **Don’t tailgate** – unexpected stops frequently occur near scenes. **Don’t speed** – slow down. **Keep up with the traffic flow** – dedicate your full attention to the roadway and those traveling around you. **Minimize distractions** – avoid changing radio stations and using mobile cell phones while approaching these areas. Expect the unexpected – keep an eye out for emergency workers and their equipment. **Be patient** – remember, police, fire, ems are working to help someone.

During the busy holiday travel season, traffic safety issues are front and center. If you travel by car this season, please place extra emphasis on safety. Spending a few extra seconds to cinch the belt on your child's safety seat, buckle your seat belt, or delaying departure to ensure you get enough rest before a long trip can make all the difference. Preventative safety, while measured in seconds or minutes, can save you from months or years of anguish, grief, financial burden, and "what if". Be smart. Be safe.

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