

MOVE OVER. IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

WHAT'S THE "MOVE OVER" LAW?

The "Move Over" law was first passed in 1996 in South Carolina after a paramedic was tragically struck while responding to a crash. It's now the law in all 50 States and Washington, DC. The law varies from State to State, but generally this is what it says:

When an emergency vehicle with emergency lights activated is stopped or parked on or next to a roadway, drivers approaching the emergency vehicle should: (1) make a lane change into an available lane not immediately adjacent to the emergency vehicle or (2) if unable to safely make a lane change, slow down to a reasonable speed for existing weather, road, and vehicular or pedestrian traffic conditions.

WHY IS THERE A "MOVE OVER" LAW?

This law was put into effect to save the lives of law enforcement officers, emergency responders and possibly yours as well.

According to recent data, 58 law enforcement officers were killed in traffic-related incidents in 2021.¹ Out of those killed in 2021, 27 officers were struck and killed outside their vehicles.²

These are very alarming statistics. They indicate that making traffic or emergency stops on the side of the road or highway are among the most dangerous things that law enforcement officers do in the line of duty.

¹ Source: www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/leo/default.html

² Source: <https://nleomf.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2021-EOY-Fatality-Report-Final-web.pdf>

Please keep our law enforcement officers and emergency responders safe. When approaching an emergency vehicle with its emergency lights on, move over if you can or slow down if moving over isn't possible.



WHAT IS THE PENALTY FOR VIOLATING THE "MOVE OVER" LAW?

While the penalty for violating a "Move Over" law varies from State to State to include costly fines and in some cases jail time, no matter what State you're in, obeying the "Move Over" law could save someone's life.

