

1985 Assembly Bill 331

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1985 Wisconsin Act 143

AN ACT to amend 346.03 (3) and 347.25 (1m) (a) and (b) of the statutes, relating to warning lights on police vehicles.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 346.03 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

346.03 (3) The exemption granted the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle by sub. (2) (a) applies only when the operator of the vehicle is giving visual signal by means of at least one flashing, oscillating or rotating red light except that the visual signal given by a ~~marked~~ police vehicle may be by means of a blue light and a red light which are flashing, oscillating or rotating. The exemptions granted by sub. (2) (b), (c) and (d) apply only when the operator of the emergency vehicle is giving both such visual signal and also an audible signal by means of a siren or exhaust whistle, except as otherwise provided in sub. (4).

SECTION 2. 347.25 (1m) (a) and (b) of the statutes are amended to read:

347.25 (1m) (a) A ~~marked~~ police vehicle under s. 340.01 (3) (a) may be equipped with a blue light and a red light which are flashing, oscillating or rotating.

(b) If the vehicle is so equipped, the lights shall be illuminated when the operator of the police vehicle is exercising the privileges granted under s. 346.03. ~~The~~ On a marked police vehicle, the blue light shall be mounted on the passenger side of the vehicle and the red light shall be mounted on the driver side of the vehicle. When in use on an unmarked police vehicle, the blue light shall be displayed on the passenger side of the vehicle and the red light shall be displayed on the driver side of the vehicle. The lights shall be designed and ~~mounted~~ displayed so as to be plainly visible and understandable from a distance of 500 feet during normal sunlight and during hours of darkness. No operator of a police vehicle may use the warning lights except when responding to an emergency call or when in pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law, when responding to but not upon returning from a fire alarm or when necessarily parked on a highway in a position which is likely to be hazardous to traffic using the highway.