

FACT SHEET FOR DRIVERS OF COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ***BE SQUARE! BE AWARE!***

Did You Know...

Radar Detectors: Commercial vehicle drivers shall not possess radar detectors while operating commercial motor vehicles. (Title 49 C.F.R. § 392.71)

Seat Belts: As a matter of law, commercial vehicle drivers must be restrained by a seat belt. (Generally required for operators of vehicles manufactured after January 1, 1965.) (Title 49 C.F.R. § 392.16)

Stopped Vehicles: Commercial vehicles are prohibited from parking on the highways and the shoulders of highways (O.C.G.A. 40-6-203); however in emergency situations a commercial motor vehicle that is stopped upon the traveled portion or shoulder of a highway for any purpose other than a necessary traffic stop, the driver shall immediately activate the vehicles hazard warning signals and shall within a 10 minute period place the stopped vehicle warning devices at the appropriate distances as required by Title 49 C.F.R. § 393.95 and § 392.22.

Headlamps: Headlamps must be used during daylight hours in inclement weather. For example: rain, snow, fog, etc. (O.C.G.A. 40-8-20)

Passengers: Drivers shall not transport persons as passengers in commercial motor vehicles unless specifically authorized in writing by the motor carrier under whose authority the motor vehicle is being operated. (Title 49 C.F.R. § 392.60)

A commercial motor vehicle is defined as:

Any self propelled or towed vehicle used on the public highways in commerce to transport passengers or property when the vehicle:

- a) Has a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) or gross combination weight rating (GCWR), or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight of 10,001 or more, whichever is greater; or
- b) Is designed or used to transport more than 8 passengers (including the driver) for compensation; or
- c) Is designed or used to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver, and is not used to transport passengers for compensation; or
- d) Is used in transporting hazardous material in a quantity requiring the use of hazardous material warning placards.



A Safety Message from Project PIE
(Public Information and Education)
FACT SHEET #004
Georgia Department of Public Safety
Motor Carrier Compliance Division
P.O. Box 1456
Atlanta, GA 30371-1456
(404) 624-7211 www.dps.georgia.gov