Subchapter D. RIGHT OF WAY

§10.40. Approaching or entering intersections.

The driver of a vehicle approaching an intersection shall yield the right of way to a vehicle which has entered the intersection from another highway. When vehicles approach or enter an intersection at approximately the same time, the driver of the vehicle on the left shall yield the right of way to the operator of the vehicle on his right.


§10.41. Turning left at intersection.

The driver of a vehicle within an intersection who intends to turn to the left shall yield the right of way to any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction which is within the intersection or so close thereto as to constitute an immediate hazard; but after he has properly signalled his intention to turn left, all other vehicles approaching the intersection from a greater distance shall yield the right of way to him.


§10.42. Intersection with through highway.

The driver of a vehicle shall stop at the entrance to a through highway and shall yield the right of way to other vehicles which have entered the intersection or have approached so close as to constitute an immediate hazard; after having so yielded the right of way, however, the driver of the vehicle entering the highway may then proceed, and other vehicles approaching the intersection on the through highway shall yield to the vehicle proceeding into or across the highway.

§10.43. Entering stop intersection.

The driver of a vehicle shall stop as required by section 10.57 of this title in obedience to a stop sign or signal erected at the entrance to an intersection, whether or not the intersecting road is a through highway, and he shall proceed into the intersection with caution, yielding the right of way to any vehicle not required to stop which is within the intersection or approaching so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard; but other vehicles at a greater distance shall thereafter yield the right of way to the vehicle which has stopped.


§10.44. Entering highway from private road or driveway.

The driver of a vehicle about to enter or cross a highway from a private road or driveway shall yield the right of way to all vehicles approaching on such highway.


§10.45. Yielding to emergency vehicles.

Upon the approach of an authorized emergency vehicle which exhibits the red light in front and emits the audible sound signal required by law, the driver of another vehicle shall immediately yield the right of way and drive to a position parallel to, and as close as possible to the right-hand edge or curb of the highway, clear of any intersection, and shall stop and remain in such position until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except as otherwise directed by a police officer; provided, however, that this section shall not operate to relieve the operator of any emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due care for the safety of all persons using the highway.

Subchapter E. TURNING, STARTING, AND STOPPING

§10.50. Position and method of turning at intersection.

The driver of a vehicle intending to turn at an intersection shall do so as follows:

(a) Right turns. The approach for a right turn shall be made as close as practicable to the right-hand edge or curb of the road.

(b) Left turn on two-way roadway. At any intersection where traffic is permitted to move in both directions on each roadway entering the intersection, an approach for a left turn shall be made in that portion of the right half of the roadway which is nearest the center thereof. The operator shall make the left turn so as to leave the intersection in that portion of the right half of the roadway which is nearest to the center of the road being entered. Whenever practicable, the left turn shall be made to the left of the center of the intersection.

(c) Left turns on other roadways. At any intersection where traffic is restricted to one direction on one or more roads, the driver of a vehicle who intends to make a left turn shall approach the intersection in the extreme left-hand lane which is lawfully available to traffic moving in such direction. Upon entering the intersection, the left turn shall be made so as to leave the intersection in the extreme left-hand lane lawfully available to traffic moving in the direction of the turning vehicle in the roadway being entered.

(d) Markers and signs at intersections. When markers, buttons, signs, signals, or other devices are placed within or adjacent to an intersection and thereby require and direct that a different course from that specified in this section be traveled by vehicles turning at an intersection, no driver of a vehicle shall turn a vehicle at an intersection other than as directed and required by such markers, buttons, signs, signals, or other devices.

§10.51. Limitation on turns.

No person shall turn a vehicle from a direct course or move left or right on a roadway unless and until such turn or movement can be made with safety.


§10.52. Certain U-turns forbidden.

No vehicle shall make a U-turn (i.e., turn in an arc of 180 degrees, so as to proceed back in the opposite direction from which it was traveling) upon any curve or upon the approach to or near the crest of any grade where such turning vehicle cannot be seen from at least 500 feet by the driver of a vehicle approaching from either direction.


§10.53. Starting parked vehicle.

No person shall move a vehicle which is stopped, standing, or parked, unless and until such movement can be made with safety.


§10.54. Signals required before turning.

No person shall turn a vehicle at an intersection, into a private road or driveway, or otherwise without giving the signal prescribed by section 10.56 of this title, if any other traffic will be affected by the movement. A signal of intention to turn left or right shall be given continuously during not less than the last 100 feet traveled by the vehicle before turning.


§10.55. Signals required before stopping.

No driver shall stop or suddenly decrease the speed of his vehicle without giving an appropriate signal as provided in section 10.56 of
this title to the driver of the vehicle immediately behind, if there is an opportunity to give such signal.


§10.56. How signals shall be given.

1. By hand and arm or by lamp or mechanical device. Except as otherwise provided by law, any stop or turn signal prescribed by any of the provisions of this title may be given by means of the hand and arm or by a signal lamp or lamps or by a mechanical signaling device; provided, however, that when a vehicle is so constructed or so loaded that a hand and arm signal is not visible to both the front and rear of the vehicle, then stop or turn signals must be given by a lamp or lamps or by a signaling device which is visible.

2. Hand and arm signal prescribed. All hand and arm signals shall be given from the left-hand side of the vehicle. They shall be given in the following manner:

   Right turn: hand and arm extended upward with fingers pointing to the right;
   Left turn: hand and arm extended horizontally;
   Stop: hand and arm extended downward;
   Slow: hand and arm extended downward, with hand making up-and-down motion.


§10.57. Stopping at stop signs.

Except when directed to proceed by a police officer, every driver of a vehicle approaching a stop sign shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, then he shall stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or in the event there is no crosswalk, at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of the approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering the intersection, and the right to proceed shall be subject to the provisions of section 10.43 of this title.
§10.58. Stopping for stopped school bus.

Every driver shall stop his vehicle upon meeting or overtaking from either direction a school bus which has stopped on the highway to receive or discharge any school children; and the driver shall not proceed until the school bus has resumed motion or until the school bus driver has signaled him to proceed; provided, however, that a driver shall not be required to stop when (a) the school bus is on a different highway, or (b) when the school bus is on a controlled-access highway and is receiving or discharging children in a loading zone which is a part of or adjacent to such highway, where pedestrians are forbidden to cross the roadway.


§10.59. Stopping at railroad grade crossings; general rule.

1. Stopping required. Every driver of a vehicle approaching a railroad grade crossing shall stop his vehicle not more than 50 feet nor less than 15 feet from the nearest track of such railroad in any of the following circumstances:

   (a) When a clearly visible electrical or mechanical signal warns of the imminent approach of a railroad train; or
   (b) When a crossing gate is lowered or a flagman signals the approach or passage of a railroad train; or
   (c) When the driver of the vehicle hears a warning signal emitted by a railroad train and determines that it is an immediate hazard by reason of the speed of its approach or its proximity to the crossing; or
   (d) When an approaching train is plainly visible and within hazardous proximity to such crossing.

The driver shall remain stopped until he can proceed safely. He shall never drive his vehicle through, around, or under any crossing gate or barrier at a railroad grade crossing while such barrier or gate is closed or is being opened or closed, nor shall he cross the grade crossing in disregard of any sound, electrical, or mechanical signal or of a flagman's signal.
2. Signs at railroad grade crossing. The Minister is authorized to designate and erect stop signs on highways at particularly dangerous railroad grade crossings. The driver of any vehicle approaching a railroad grade crossing at which a stop sign has been erected shall stop not more than 50 feet nor less than 15 feet from the nearest track of the railroad and shall thereafter proceed with due care.


§10.60. Stopping at railroad grade crossings by special vehicles.

The driver of any of the following vehicles shall stop at every railroad grade crossing at a distance of not more than 50 nor less than 15 feet from the nearest rail of such railroad: any motor vehicle carrying passengers for hire; a school bus carrying any school children; or any vehicle carrying any explosive or flammable substance or liquid as part of its cargo; provided, however, that such driver shall not be required to stop if a police officer or traffic control signal directs traffic to proceed. Upon stopping, the operator shall look in both directions and listen for any approaching train and shall not proceed until he can do so safely. He shall cross in such gear that there will be no necessity for shifting gears while traversing the crossing, and he shall not shift gears while crossing any tracks.


Subchapter F. TRAFFIC SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND LIGHTS

§10.70. Authorization of traffic control signs and signals.

The Minister shall cause signs, signals, and lights to be placed on the public highways of Liberia both within and without municipalities to enforce and implement the provisions of this title, as well as to regulate, warn, or guide the flow of traffic throughout the Republic.

§10.71. Interfering with traffic signals forbidden.

No person shall, without official authorization, alter, deface, injure, knock down, overprint, or remove any official traffic control sign, signal, or light or interfere with any part thereof.


Any accident which results in the defacing, injury to, destruction, or removal of a traffic control sign, signal, or light shall be reported immediately to the National Police Force by the vehicle operators involved in the accident.


§10.73. General standards for traffic control devices.

All traffic signals, signs, and lights shall be placed along streets, roads, and highways in such a position that they will be readily noticed by an ordinarily observant person. They shall be sufficiently legible that they can be distinguished by a person with normal eyesight proceeding according to law at a sufficient distance to enable the person to comply with their requirements. No unauthorized person shall place any signs, signals, or lights along or upon any street, road, or highway which would tend to control the flow of traffic in any shape or form.


§10.74. Application of lights to pedestrians.

At any intersection where there is a traffic light in operation, pedestrians are forbidden to cross at right angles to the line of vehicular traffic while the light is green or amber for the vehicles. Pedestrians shall cross the intersection against the flow of traffic only when the red light requires a full stop by the vehicles; but if the light turns amber or green when a pedestrian has already neared the middle of the intersection, he shall continue to cross to the other side or to a
nearer safety zone, and vehicles shall yield the right of way to him, as provided in section 10.75 of this title.


§10.75. Application of lights to vehicles.

1. Red or yellow light. No vehicle shall enter a crossing or intersection when an operating traffic light facing such vehicle is red or yellow or amber; but if a vehicle is in an intersection when the facing traffic light becomes red or yellow or amber, it shall proceed through the intersection, and opposing traffic shall yield the right of way to such vehicle.

2. Green light. If a traffic light turns green for vehicles while a pedestrian is in the center of an intersection or crossing, the vehicles shall remain standing until such pedestrian has cleared the crossing or intersection or has reached the nearest safety zone.

3. Flashing red light. When a vehicle approaches a red-light flashing intermittently at an intersection or crossing, it shall come to a full stop before entering the crossing or intersection and check the opposing traffic or pedestrians before proceeding.

4. Flashing yellow or amber light. When a vehicle approaches a yellow or amber light flashing intermittently at an intersection or crossing, it shall reduce speed and proceed with caution.


§10.76. Specifications for stop signs.

Every stop sign shall bear the word "STOP" in letters not less than six inches high in a color contrasting with the color of the rest of the sign; every such sign shall be illuminated at night by a steady or flashing internal illuminating device or by a fixed floodlight shining on the face of the sign or by efficient reflecting elements on the face of the sign. Every stop sign shall be erected as close as practicable to the nearest line of the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection; if there is no crosswalk, then it shall be erected as close as possible to the nearest line of the intersecting roadway.