

Fines Issued When Headlights Off During Rain

By CPM Attorneys

Beginning January 1, 2010, a driver can be fined for not having headlights on when the windshield wipers are in use. This has been the law for six months, but became a fined offense in 2010. Like seatbelt infractions, the officer cannot pull someone over for this, but may site it as a secondary violation if the driver is cited with another moving violation.

Other traffic law changes include:

- An expansion of the law requiring that drivers move over for law-enforcement vehicles. Drivers must now also keep a safe distance for road service vehicles, including wreckers, utility repair vehicles and service vehicles that display flashing or rotating amber lights. Violation of this law is a misdemeanor offense.
- Changing truck and other heavy vehicle regulations to permit interstate travel at the same speed as other vehicles, regardless of weight. Previously, many highways required heavy vehicles to travel at 55 miles per hour instead of 65. This law now permits all traffic to travel at 65 miles per hour, but violations for overloading will continue to be enforced.
- A change in the definition of “bicycle” to include those with two wheels in the front and one in the back, any one of which exceeds 14 inches in diameter. This impacts upright trikes, recumbent tadpole trikes, industrial trikes, and pedicabs, but does not apply to the Fisher Price Big Wheel!