

**UNIFORM VEHICLE CODE**  
**REVISED 2000**  
**Annotated for MUTCD 7/26/10**

Note: This code or any portion thereof should be prefaced by a descriptive title conforming to the requirements of the constitution or statutes of the state enacting it.

*Be it enacted, \* \* \**

CHAPTER 1

**Words and Phrases Defined**

**§ 1-101-Definition of words and phrases**

The following words and phrases when used in this code shall, for the purpose of this code, have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this chapter, except when the context otherwise requires and except where another definition set forth in another chapter of this code and applicable to that chapter or a designated part thereof is applicable.

**§ 1-105-Alley** - A street or highway intended to provide access to the rear or side of lots or buildings in urban districts and not intended for the purpose of through vehicular traffic.

**§ 1-107-Arterial street** - Any U.S. or State numbered route, controlled-access highway, or other major radial or circumferential street or highway designated by local authorities within their respective jurisdictions as part of a major arterial system of streets or highways.

**§ 1-108-Authorized emergency vehicle** - Such fire department vehicles, police vehicles and ambulances as are publicly owned, and such other publicly or privately owned vehicles as are designated by the commissioner (or other appropriate state official) under §15-111 of this code.

**§ 1-109-Bicycle** - Every vehicle propelled solely by human power upon which any person may ride, having two tandem wheels and except scooters and similar devices.

**§ 1-110-Bus** - Every motor vehicle with a manufacturers rated seating capacity of 11 or more passengers, including the driver.

**§ 1-111-Business district** - The territory contiguous to and including a highway when within any 600 feet along such highway there are buildings in use for business or industrial purposes, including but not limited to hotels, banks, or Office buildings, railroad stations and public buildings which occupy at least 300 feet of frontage on one side or 300 feet collectively on both sides of the highway.

§ ~~1-116-Controlled-access highway~~ - Every highway, street or roadway in respect to which owners or occupants of abutting lands and other persons have no legal right of access to or from the same except at such points only and in such manner as may be determined by the public authority having jurisdiction over such highway, street or roadway.

§ ~~1-118-Crosswalk~~

(a) That part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway measured from the curbs or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the traversable roadway; and in the absence of a sidewalk on one side of the roadway, that part of a roadway included within the extension of the lateral lines of the existing sidewalk at right angles to the centerline.

(b) Any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface.

§ ~~1-120-Department~~<sup>2</sup> - The department of motor vehicles of this State.

§ ~~1-122-Divided highway~~ - A highway divided into two or more roadways by leaving an intervening space or by a physical barrier or by a clearly indicated dividing section so constructed as to impede vehicular traffic.

§ ~~1-123-Drive~~ - to operate or be in physical control of a vehicle.

§ ~~1-125-Driven~~ - to have operated or been in physical control of a vehicle.

§ ~~1-126-Driver~~ - Every person who drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle.

§ ~~1-128-Driving~~ - operating or being in physical control of a vehicle.

§ ~~1-133-Farm tractor~~ - Every motor vehicle designed and used primarily as a farm implement, for drawing plows, mowing machines and other implements of husbandry.

§ ~~1-136-Gross Weight~~ - The weight of a vehicle without load plus the weight of any load thereon.

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2 If the administration of this code is not vested in the department of motor vehicles within a particular state, the above definition should be revised to designate the appropriate department or bureau of the state government to administer this code.

**§ 1-138-Highway** – The entire width between the boundary lines of every way publicly maintained when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.<sup>3</sup>

**§ 1-139-House trailer**

(a) A trailer or semitrailer which is designed, constructed and equipped as a dwelling place, living abode or sleeping place (either permanently or temporarily) and is equipped for use as a conveyance on streets and highways, or

(b) A trailer or a semitrailer whose chassis and exterior shell is designed and constructed for use as a house trailer, as defined in paragraph (a), but which is used instead permanently or temporarily for the advertising, sales, display or promotion of merchandise or services, or for any other commercial purpose except the transportation of property for hire or the transportation of property for distribution by a private carrier.

**§ 1-140-Human-powered vehicle** – Every vehicle designed to be moved solely by human power.

**§ 1-142-Implement of husbandry** – Every vehicle designed or adapted and used exclusively for agricultural operations and only incidentally operated or moved upon the highways,

**§ 1-146-Intersection** –

(a) The area embraced within the prolongation or connection of the lateral curb lines, or, if none, then the lateral boundary lines of the roadways of two highways which join one another at, or approximately at, right angles, or the area within which vehicles traveling upon different highways joining at any other angle may come in conflict.

(b) Where a highway includes two roadways (30) feet or more apart, then every crossing of each roadway of such divided highway by an intersecting highway shall be regarded as a separate intersection. In the event such intersecting highway also includes two roadways (30) feet or more apart, then every crossing of two roadways of such highways shall be regarded as a separate intersection.

(c) The junction of an alley with a street or highway shall not constitute an intersection.

**§ 1-147-Laned roadway** – A roadway which is divided into two or more clearly marked lanes for vehicular traffic.

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<sup>3</sup> By the above definition the terms "street and 'highway" are synonymous and interchangeable.

**§ 1-148—License or license to operate a motor vehicle** — Any driver's license or any other license or permit to operate a motor vehicle issued under, or granted by, the laws of this State including:

- (a) Any temporary license or instruction permit;
- (b) The privilege of any person to drive a motor vehicle whether or not such person holds a valid license;
- (c) Any nonresident's operating privilege as defined herein.

**§ 1-150—Local authorities** — Every county, municipal and other local board or body having authority to enact laws relating to traffic under the constitution and laws of this State,

**§ 1-153—Metal tire** — Every tire the surface of which in contact with the highway is wholly or partly of metal or other hard, nonresilient material.

**§ 1-154—Moped** — A motor-driven cycle with a motor which produces not to exceed two- brake horsepower and which is not capable of propelling the vehicle at a speed in excess of 30 mph on level ground. If an, internal combustion engine is used, the displacement shall not exceed 50 cubic centimeters, and the moped shall have a power drive system that functions directly or automatically without clutching or shifting by the operator after the drive system is engaged.

**§ 1-155—Motor home** — A motor vehicle designed to provide temporary living quarters, built into as an integral part of, or permanently attached to, a self-propelled motor vehicle chassis or van. The vehicle must contain permanently installed independent life support systems which meet the ANSI/NFPA 501C Standard, and provide at least four of the following facilities: cooking, refrigeration or ice box, self-contained toilet, heating and/or air conditioning, a potable water supply system including a faucet and sink, separate 110-125 volt electrical power supply and/or an LP-gas supply.

The basic types are specified as follows:

Type A: A raw chassis upon which is built a driver's compartment and an entire body which provides temporary living quarters as defined above; and

Type B: A completed van-type vehicle which has been altered to provide temporary living quarters as defined above; and

Type C: An incomplete vehicle upon which is permanently attached a body designed to provide temporary living quarters as defined above.

**§ 1-156—Motor vehicle** — Every vehicle which is self-propelled, and every vehicle which is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires but not operated upon rails, except vehicles moved solely by human power and motorized wheelchairs.

**§ 1-157—Motorcycle** — Every motor vehicle having a seat or saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, but excluding a tractor.

§ ~~1-158-Motor-driven cycle~~ - Every motorcycle, motor scooter or motorized bicycle having an engine with less than 150 cubic centimeters displacement or with five brake horsepower or less.

§ ~~1-159--Motorized wheelchair~~ - Any self-propelled vehicle designed for, and used by, a person with disabilities that is incapable of a speed in excess of eight miles per hour.

§ ~~1-162--Odometer~~ - An instrument for measuring and recording the actual distance a motor vehicle travels while in operation, other than any auxiliary odometer designed to be reset by the operator of the motor vehicle for the purpose of recording mileage on trips.

§ ~~1-163--Official traffic-control devices~~ - All signs, signals, markings and devices not inconsistent with this code placed or erected by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction, for the purpose of regulating, warning or guiding traffic.

§ ~~1-165--Park or parking~~ - The standing of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, otherwise than temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading property or passengers.

§ ~~1-166--Passenger area~~ - The area designed to seat the driver and passengers while the motor vehicle is in operation and any area that is readily accessible to the driver or passengers while in their seating positions, including but not limited to the glove compartment.

§ ~~1-167--Passenger car~~ - Every motor vehicle, except motorcycles and motor-driven cycles, designed for carrying 10 passengers or less and used for the transportation of persons.

§ ~~1-168--Pedestrian~~ - Any person afoot.

§ ~~1-169--Person~~ - Every natural person, firm, copartnership, association or corporation.

§ 1-170—**Person with disabilities** — Persons who, as determined by a licensed physician:

(a) cannot walk two hundred feet without stopping to rest;

(b) cannot walk without the use of, or assistance from, a brace, cane, crutch, another person, prosthetic device, wheelchair, or other assistance device;

(c) restricted by lung disease to such an extent that the person's forced (respiratory) expiratory volume for one second, when measured by spirometry, is less than one liter, or the arterial oxygen tension is less than sixty nun of Hg on room air at rest;

(d) use portable oxygen;

(e) have a cardiac condition to the extent that the person's functional limitations are classified in severity as Class III or Class IV according to standards set by the American Heart Association; or

(f) are severely limited in their ability to walk due to an arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition.

§ 1-173—**Pneumatic tire** — Every tire in which compressed air is designed to support the load.

§ 1-174—**Pole trailer** — Every vehicle without motive power designed to be drawn by another vehicle and attached to the towing vehicle by means of a reach or pole, or by being boomed or otherwise secured to the towing vehicle, and ordinarily used for transporting long or irregularly shaped loads such as poles, pipes or structural members capable, generally, of sustaining themselves as beams between the supporting connections.

§ 1-175—**Police officer** — Every officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic or to make arrests or issue citations for violations of traffic laws or ordinances.

§ 1-177—**Private road or driveway** — Every way or place in private ownership and used for vehicular travel by the owner and those having express or implied permission from the owner, but not by other persons.

§ 1-178—**Railroad** — A carrier of persons or property upon cars, (other than streetcars), operated upon stationary rails.

§ 1-179—**Railroad sign or signal** — Any sign, signal or device erected by authority of a public body or official or by a railroad and intended to give notice of the presence of railroad tracks or the approach of a railroad train.

§ 1-180—**Railroad train** — A steam engine, electric or other motor, with or without cars coupled thereto, operated upon rails (except streetcars)

§ 1-183—**Residence district** — The territory contiguous to and including a highway not comprising a business district when the property on such highway for a distance of 300 feet or more is in the main improved with residences, or residences and buildings in use for business.

§ **1-185--Right of way** – The right of one vehicle or pedestrian to proceed in a lawful manner in preference to another vehicle or pedestrian approaching under such circumstances of direction, speed and proximity as to give rise to danger of collision unless one grants precedence to the other.

§ **1-186--Roadway** – that portion of a highway improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, exclusive of the sidewalk, berm or shoulder even though such sidewalk, berm or shoulder is used by persons riding bicycles or other human powered vehicles. In the event a highway includes two or more separate roadways the term "roadway" as used herein shall refer to any such roadway separately but not to all such roadways collectively.

§ **1-188--Safety zone** – The area or space officially set apart within a roadway for the exclusive use of pedestrians and which is protected or is so marked or indicated by official traffic control devices as to be plainly visible at all times as set apart as a safety zone.

§ **1-189--School bus** – Every bus that is used to transport children to or from school or in connection with school activities, but not including buses operated by common carriers in urban transportation who incidentally accept school children as passengers.

§ **1-192--Semitrailer** – Every vehicle with or without motive power, other than a pole trailer, designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and so constructed that some part of its weight and that of its load rests upon or is carried by another vehicle.

§ **1-193--Sidewalk** – That portion of a street between the curb lines, or the lateral lines of a roadway, and the adjacent property lines, intended for use by pedestrians.

§ **1-194--Solid rubber tire** – Every tire of rubber or other resilient material which does not depend upon compressed air for the support of the load.

§ **1-195--Special mobile equipment** – Every vehicle not designed or used primarily for the transportation of persons or property and only incidentally operated or moved over a highway, including but not limited to: ditch-digging apparatus, well-boring apparatus and road construction and maintenance machinery such as asphalt spreaders, bituminous mixers, bucket loaders, tractors other than truck tractors, ditchers, levelling graders, finishing machines, motor graders, road rollers, scarifiers, earth moving carry-alls and scrapers, power shovels and drag lines, and self-propelled cranes and earth moving equipment. The term does not include house trailers, dump trucks, truck-mounted transit mixers, cranes or shovels, or other vehicles designed for the transportation of persons or property to which machinery has been attached.

§ **1-196-Specially constructed vehicle** - Every vehicle of a type required to be registered hereunder not originally constructed under a distinctive name, make, model, or type by a generally recognized manufacturer of vehicles and not materially altered from its original construction.

§ **1-197-Stand or standing** - The halting of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, otherwise than temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in receiving or discharging passengers.

§ **1-198-State** - A state, territory or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or a province of Canada.

§ **1-199-Stop** - When required means complete cessation from movement.

§ **1-200-Stop or stopping** - When prohibited means any halting even momentarily of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or official traffic-control device.

§ **1-201-Street** - The entire width between boundary lines of every way publicly maintained when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.<sup>4</sup>

§ **1-202-Streetcar** - A car other than a railroad train for transporting persons or property and operated upon rails principally within a municipality.<sup>5</sup>

§ **1-205-Through highway** - Every highway or portion thereof on which vehicular traffic is given preferential right of way, and at the entrances to which vehicular traffic from intersecting highways is required by law to yield the right of way to vehicles on such through highway in obedience to a stop sign, yield sign, or other official traffic-control device, when such signs or devices are erected as provided in this code.

§ **1-206-Trackless trolley coach** - Every motor vehicle which is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires but not operated upon rails.

§ **1-201-Traffic** - Pedestrians, ridden or herded animals, vehicles, streetcars and other conveyances either singly or together while using any highway for purposes of travel.

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<sup>4</sup> By the above definition the terms "street" and "highway" are synonymous and interchangeable.

<sup>5</sup> This definition should be omitted by states in which streetcars are not in operation.



§ ~~1-208--Traffic-control signal~~ - Any device, whether manually, electrically or mechanically operated, by which traffic is alternately directed to stop and permitted to proceed.

§ ~~1-209-Trailer~~ - Every vehicle with or without motive power, other than a pole trailer, designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and so constructed that no part of its weight rests upon the towing vehicle.

§ ~~1-211-Truck~~ - Every motor vehicle designed, used or maintained primarily for the transportation of property.

§ ~~1-213-Truck tractor~~ - Every motor vehicle designed and used primarily for drawing other vehicles and not so constructed as to carry a load other than a part of the weight of the vehicle and load so drawn.

§ ~~1-214-Urban district~~ - The territory contiguous to and including any street which is built up with structures devoted to business, industry or dwelling houses situated at intervals of less than 100 feet for a distance of a quarter of a mile or more.

§ ~~1-215-Vehicle~~ - Every device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway, excepting devices used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.