

STATE OF DELAWARE OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY www.ohs.delaware.gov

Newsletter Article

February 2015

Move Over. It's the Law.

The Delaware Office of Highway is calling on you to help put an end to roadside fatalities among emergency personnel by reminding all motorists to *Move Over. It's the Law.*

Anyone who works alongside our highways is particularly vulnerable to being hurt by inattentive and careless drivers. To address the heightened danger involved in working by the side of the road, every state has enacted "Move Over" laws, requiring motorists to change lanes and/or slow down when approaching stopped emergency vehicles.

Delaware's Move Over Law has been in effect since January 1, 2007:

- Requires any driver approaching a stopped emergency vehicle that has its lights activated, to either move over into a lane that is not next to the emergency vehicle, or to reduce his or her speed to a "safe speed" while passing the emergency vehicle if changing lanes would be impossible or unsafe.
- Emergency vehicles include: law enforcement vehicles, EMS vehicles, ambulances, fire trucks, fire police and park rangers that have stopped on a roadway and have their lights activated.
- Law applies specifically to roadways having two or more lanes going in the same direction.
- The fine for not moving over for an emergency vehicle is \$25.

Remember, moving over to give space to emergency personnel isn't just a courtesy— *It's the Law.* For more information on this and other traffic safety topics, go to our webpage at <u>www.ohs.delaware.gov</u>.

Drive Safe. Arrive Alive DE.