

Memorandum

City of Lawrence

City Attorney's Office

TO: David Corliss, City Manager

FROM: Maria Kaminska, Assistant City Attorney

DATE: August 29, 2013

RE: 2013 Standard Traffic Ordinance

BACKGROUND

Each year, the City of Lawrence adopts the most recent version of the Standard Traffic Ordinance (STO) prepared by the League of Kansas Municipalities. The STO is a model traffic code based upon Kansas state law, and its adoption allows for the prosecution of most traffic violations in our municipal court. New editions are required annually in order to respond to the changes made to the traffic laws each legislative session. Ordinance 8902 adopts the 2013 version.

DISCUSSION

This year's edition significantly changes the law in the following respects:

- Section 1 (Definitions): Adds "state highway commission" as alternate term for "commission;" adds "motor vehicle department" or "vehicle department" as alternate terms for "department;" adds term "electronic certificate of title;" adds term "electric vehicle;" adds term "farm trailer;" revises definition of "implement of husbandry;" adds "oil well servicing, oil well clean-out or oil well drilling machinery or equipment;" changes "passenger car" to "passenger vehicle," adds term "road tractor;" adds term "self-propelled farm implement;" adds term "travel trailer."
- Section 25 (Duty to Give Information and Render Aid): Allows persons involved in a vehicle accident resulting in injury or death to provide proof of motor vehicle insurance evidence on a cell phone or other portable device. Anyone viewing the insurance using this method is prohibited from looking at any other content or information stored on the device.
- Section 30 (Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicating Liquor or Drugs; Penalties): Adds aggravated battery to the list of previous convictions to be considered during sentencing.

- Section 30.1 (Driving Commercial Motor Vehicle Under the Influence of Intoxicating Liquor or Drugs; Penalties): Adds aggravated battery to the list of previous convictions to be considered during sentencing.
- Section 30.2.1 (Refusal to Submit to Alcohol or Drug Testing): Adds aggravated battery to the list of previous convictions to be considered during sentencing if the conviction occurred after the person turned 18.
- Section 183 (Head Lamps): Permits motorcycle headlamps wired with a modulation system as long as such modulation system complies with federal standards established by statute.
- Section 186 (Stop Lamps): Permits motorcycles to be equipped with side lamps that are visible from the sides but not from the front or back. The lights must emit white, amber, or red light without glare.
- Section 200 (Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance): Permits proof of liability insurance to be provided by cell phone or other portable electronic device. Anyone viewing the insurance on the device is prohibited from looking at anything else on the device.

Action Requested:

Adopt on first reading, [Ordinance No. 8902](#), "2013 Standard Traffic Ordinance, Edition 2013."