

**LAKWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT  
STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES**

SOG NUMBER: 101.16	PERSONNEL
DATE IMPLEMENTED: OCTOBER 16, 2018 DATE REVISED:	TITLE: USE OF BLUE EMERGENCY WARNING LIGHTS

**PURPOSE:**

These provisions are promulgated and designed to establish policy, responsibilities and requirements for the protection of firefighters utilizing Blue Emergency Warning Lights when responding to fire emergencies in their personal vehicles as well as for the protection of the public to whom we serve.

**SCOPE:**

These procedures shall apply to all personnel.

**GENERAL:**

A. The following pertains to the issuance of Blue Emergency Warning Lights:

1. Application for a permit authorizing the use of Blue Emergency Warning Lights pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:24 et seq., may be considered only if the applicant is an active member in good standing of the LFD as determined by the Chief of Department or his/her designee.
2. The permit must be in the possession of the operator at all times when the blue light(s) are operated on the vehicle and must be exhibited upon the request of any law enforcement official.
3. Permits are valid for four (4) years from the date of issuance and are non-transferable. When a person to whom a permit is issued ceases to be an active member in good standing of the LFD, the permit must be surrendered to the Chief of Department or his/her designee, who will then surrender said permit to the Motor Vehicle Commission within ten (10) days of the date of cancellation or revocation.
4. Mounting of Blue Emergency Warning Lights shall be in accordance with the regulations as specified in the Application for the Blue Light Permit.

B. The following pertains to the use of Blue Emergency Warning Lights on personal vehicles when responding to emergencies:

1. Blue Emergency Warning Lights may only be operated while the personal vehicle is being used when responding to an emergency.

2. Nothing contained herein is intended to grant any member of the LFD any privileges or exemptions denied to the drivers of other vehicles, and such **members displaying Blue Emergency Warning Lights shall drive with due regard for the safety of all persons and shall obey all the traffic laws of this State**, provided, however, that drivers of non-emergency vehicles upon any highway shall yield to the right of way to the vehicle of any member displaying Blue Emergency Warning Lights in the same manner as is provided for authorized emergency vehicles pursuant to Title 39 - Motor Vehicles and Traffic Regulation Section 39:4-92.
  
3. **The issuance of a Blue Light Permit allowing a member the use of Blue Emergency Warning Lights does not allow the use of a siren(s).**