- 1 AN ACT in relation to vehicles.
- 2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
- 3 represented in the General Assembly:
- 4 Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by
- 5 changing Section 12-215 as follows:
- 6 (625 ILCS 5/12-215) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 12-215)
- 7 Sec. 12-215. Oscillating, rotating or flashing lights on
- 8 motor vehicles. Except as otherwise provided in this Code:
- 9 (a) The use of red or white oscillating, rotating or
- 10 flashing lights, whether lighted or unlighted, is prohibited
- 11 except on:
- 1. Law enforcement vehicles of State, Federal or
- 13 local authorities;
- 14 2. A vehicle operated by a police officer or county
- 15 coroner and designated or authorized by local
- authorities, in writing, as a law enforcement vehicle;
- 17 however, such designation or authorization must be
- carried in the vehicle;
- 19 3. Vehicles of local fire departments and State or
- 20 federal firefighting vehicles;
- 21 4. Vehicles which are designed and used exclusively
- 22 as ambulances or rescue vehicles; furthermore, such
- lights shall not be lighted except when responding to an
- 24 emergency call for and while actually conveying the sick
- 25 or injured;
- 5. Tow trucks licensed in a state that requires
- 27 such lights; furthermore, such lights shall not be
- lighted on any such tow truck while the tow truck is
- operating in the State of Illinois; and
- 30 6. Vehicles of the Illinois Emergency Management
- 31 Agency, and vehicles of the Department of Nuclear Safety.

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

- 1 (b) The use of amber oscillating, rotating or flashing 2 lights, whether lighted or unlighted, is prohibited except 3 on:
  - Second division vehicles designed and used for towing or hoisting vehicles; furthermore, such lights shall not be lighted except as required in this paragraph such lights shall be lighted when such vehicles are 1; actually being used at the scene of an accident or disablement; if the towing vehicle is equipped with a flat bed that supports all wheels of the vehicle being transported, the lights shall not be lighted while the vehicle is engaged in towing on a highway; if the towing vehicle is not equipped with a flat bed that supports all wheels of a vehicle being transported, the lights shall be lighted while the towing vehicle is engaged in towing on a highway during all times when the use of headlights is required under Section 12-201 of this Code;
    - 2. Motor vehicles or equipment of the State of Illinois, local authorities and contractors; furthermore, such lights shall not be lighted except while such vehicles are engaged in maintenance or construction operations within the limits of construction projects;
    - 3. Vehicles or equipment used by engineering or survey crews; furthermore, such lights shall not be lighted except while such vehicles are actually engaged in work on a highway;
    - 4. Vehicles of public utilities, municipalities, or other construction, maintenance or automotive service vehicles except that such lights shall be lighted only as a means for indicating the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing while such vehicles are engaged in maintenance, service or construction on a highway;
      - 5. Oversized vehicle or load; however, such lights

- shall only be lighted when moving under permit issued by the Department under Section 15-301 of this Code;
  - 6. The front and rear of motorized equipment owned and operated by the State of Illinois or any political subdivision thereof, which is designed and used for removal of snow and ice from highways;
  - 7. Fleet safety vehicles registered in another state, furthermore, such lights shall not be lighted except as provided for in Section 12-212 of this Code;
  - 8. Such other vehicles as may be authorized by local authorities;
  - 9. Law enforcement vehicles of State or local authorities when used in combination with red oscillating, rotating or flashing lights;
  - 10. Vehicles used for collecting or delivering mail for the United States Postal Service provided that such lights shall not be lighted except when such vehicles are actually being used for such purposes;
  - 11. Any vehicle displaying a slow-moving vehicle emblem as provided in Section 12-205.1;
  - 12. All trucks equipped with self-compactors or roll-off hoists and roll-on containers for garbage or refuse hauling. Such lights shall not be lighted except when such vehicles are actually being used for such purposes;
  - 13. Vehicles used by a security company, alarm responder, or control agency, if the security company, alarm responder, or control agency is bound by a contract with a federal, State, or local government entity to use the lights; and
  - 14. Security vehicles of the Department of Human Services; however, the lights shall not be lighted except when being used for security related purposes under the direction of the superintendent of the facility where the

1	vehicle is located.
2	(c) The use of blue oscillating, rotating or flashing
3	lights, whether lighted or unlighted, is prohibited except
4	on:
5	1. Rescue squad vehicles not owned by a fire
6	department and vehicles owned or fully operated by a:
7	voluntary firefighter;
8	paid firefighter;
9	part-paid firefighter;
10	call firefighter;
11	member of the board of trustees of a fire
12	protection district;
13	paid or unpaid member of a rescue squad; or
14	paid or unpaid member of a voluntary ambulance
15	unit.
16	However, such lights are not to be lighted except
17	when responding to a bona fide emergency.
18	2. Police department vehicles in cities having a
19	population of 500,000 or more inhabitants.
20	3. Law enforcement vehicles of State or local
21	authorities when used in combination with red
22	oscillating, rotating or flashing lights.
23	4. Vehicles of local fire departments and State or
24	federal firefighting vehicles when used in combination
25	with red oscillating, rotating or flashing lights.
26	5. Vehicles which are designed and used exclusively
27	as ambulances or rescue vehicles when used in combination
28	with red oscillating, rotating or flashing lights;
29	furthermore, such lights shall not be lighted except when

responding to an emergency call.

6. Vehicles that are equipped and used exclusively

as organ transport vehicles when used in combination with

red oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights;

furthermore, these lights shall only be lighted when the

30

31

32

33

34

- transportation is declared an emergency by a member of the transplant team or a representative of the organ procurement organization.
- 7. Vehicles of the Illinois Emergency Management
  Agency and vehicles of the Department of Nuclear Safety,
  when used in combination with red oscillating, rotating,
  or flashing lights.
- In addition to the blue oscillating, rotating, 8 9 flashing lights permitted under subsection (c), and notwithstanding subsection (a), a vehicle operated by a 10 11 voluntary firefighter, a voluntary member of a rescue squad, or a member of a voluntary ambulance unit may be equipped 12 with flashing white headlights and blue grill lights, which 13 may be used only in responding to an emergency call. 14
- The use of a combination of amber and 15 16 oscillating, rotating or flashing lights, whether lighted or unlighted, is prohibited, except motor vehicles or equipment 17 of the State of Illinois, local authorities and contractors 18 19 may be so equipped; furthermore, such lights shall not be lighted except while such vehicles are engaged in highway 20 21 maintenance or construction operations within the limits of 22 highway construction projects.
- 23 (e) All oscillating, rotating or flashing lights 24 referred to in this Section shall be of sufficient intensity, 25 when illuminated, to be visible at 500 feet in normal 26 sunlight.
- 27 (f) Nothing in this Section shall prohibit a 28 manufacturer of oscillating, rotating or flashing lights or 29 his representative from temporarily mounting such lights on a 30 vehicle for demonstration purposes only.
- 31 (g) Any person violating the provisions of subsections 32 (a), (b), (c) or (d) of this Section who without lawful 33 authority stops or detains or attempts to stop or detain 34 another person shall be guilty of a Class 4 felony.

- 1 (h) Except as provided in subsection (g) above, any
- 2 person violating the provisions of subsections (a) or (c) of
- 3 this Section shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.
- 4 (Source: P.A. 91-357, eff. 7-29-99; 92-138, eff. 7-24-01;
- 5 92-407, eff. 8-17-01; revised 9-12-01)