



Policy on Use of Emergency Traffic Signal Preemption (Opticom) For Area Ambulance Services

Application for permission to utilize emergency traffic preemption may be made by letter to the Fire Chief of the City of Dubuque, who may allow such use under the following conditions:

Eligibility:

- Dubuque County Sheriff's Department, and
 - Non-profit or governmental agency emergency services, but only when
- 1) Applicant has entered into a 28E or Mutual Agreement with the City of Dubuque, and
 - 2) Provided proof of required insurance coverage to the City of Dubuque, and
 - 3) Agrees to indemnify and hold the City of Dubuque harmless for any personal injury, death, or property damage caused by Applicant's use of the preemption system

Equipment:

- All costs of acquiring, installing and maintaining preemption emitters shall be borne by the Applicant.
- Emitters must be programmed by the City of Dubuque, or by a facility or provider authorized by the City of Dubuque prior to use.
- All preemption equipment must be wired to disengage when vehicle placed in park or when door opens.
- The City of Dubuque provides no guarantee of traffic preemption system availability or reliability.

Usage:

- Preemption may be used by Dubuque County Sheriff vehicles during emergency responses within city limits of the city of Dubuque.
- Preemption may be used by an emergency vehicle towing the Dubuque County Fire Association Breathing Air Trailer while inbound to an emergency at the request of the Dubuque Fire Department.
- Preemption may be used by ambulances in-bound to Dubuque hospitals only

and only then when the patient's condition requires rapid transportation.

- Use during out-bound transport from a local hospital is prohibited.
- Authorized agencies must assure that vehicle operators are trained in the proper use and application of the pre-emption system.
- Compliance with state and local traffic laws and specifically Iowa Code §321.231 is required.

Audit:

- Use of preemption system is audited by the City of Dubuque traffic engineers and reports are submitted to the Dubuque Fire Chief for review. Applicants must furnish applicable patient care records (with any patient identifiers redacted) to the Fire Chief for review upon request.
- The City may review traffic cameras to verify any use of the preemption system.

Revocation:

Permission to utilize emergency traffic signal preemption may be revoked if evidence is shown that the applicant has misused the privilege or violated any of these conditions.