



**Department
of Commerce**

Division of State Fire Marshal

**STATE OF OHIO
DIVISION OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL
OFFICIAL INSPECTION STATION
PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLE**

FDID #: _____

Name of Agency

County

Street Address / City / State / Zip

Record of "Official Inspection Station" status for the inspection of public safety vehicles as provided in Section 4513.02 of the Revised Code of Ohio, and states that the answers given herein are true and correct:

1. Location of permanent facility to be used as Official Inspection Station:

Name of Facility

Street Address / City / State / Zip

2. List person responsible for all operations of the public safety vehicle inspection program in your service.

Title

Name

Daytime Phone

Street Address / City / State / Zip

3. Number of persons used to conduct public safety vehicle inspections? _____

4. All public safety vehicle inspection stations shall permit any authorized member of the Ohio State Highway Patrol and/or the Division of State Fire Marshal to survey their inspection station, relative to paragraph (c) of Section 4513.02, Ohio Revised Code.

I have read and agree to comply with the rules and regulations for an Official Inspection Station and I further agree to conduct public safety vehicle inspections in accordance with the standards required by the Superintendent of the Ohio State Highway Patrol (Ohio Administrative Rules Chapter 4501:2-1).

PRINT: _____ SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

(Chief of the Fire Department or Emergency Medical Service)

Mail completed Application to: Division of State Fire Marshal
Fire Prevention Bureau
Attn: Vehicle Inspections
8895 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

Rules Governing Public Safety Vehicles Operated By Volunteer Fire Fighters

1. Authority

The State Fire Marshal shall be designated by the director of public safety as the certifying agency for all public safety vehicles as defined in the Ohio Revised Code section 4511.01(E)(3)

2. Requirements for Inspection Stations

According to the Ohio Administrative Code section 4501:2-1-01, all political subdivisions¹ engaging in motor vehicle inspection shall have proper tools, equipment and trained personnel competent to inspect:

All types of brakes, including adequate brake testing area unless mechanical testing devices are used, all lights and turn signals, steering mechanism, horns and warning devices, windshield and all window glass, mirrors, exhaust system, windshield wipers, tires and/or any other equipment as required.

3. Equipment to be Inspected

(A) The Ohio Administrative Code section 4501:2-1-02 states that all political subdivisions engaging in motor vehicle inspections shall inspect and test each motor vehicle to determine if it is unsafe, if it is not equipped as required by law, and if its equipment is not in proper adjustment or repair, or in violation of equipment provisions of this chapter or of Chapter 4513 of the Ohio Revised Code.

(B) Such inspections shall be made with respect to brakes, lights, turn signals, steering, horns and warning devices, glass, mirrors, exhaust systems, windshield wipers, tires, and such other items of equipment as designated by the superintendent of the Ohio State Highway Patrol by rules or regulations adopted pursuant to sections 119.01 to 119.13 of the Revised Code. All inspections shall be conducted in accordance with 4501:2-1 of the Administrative Code.

4. Retention of Records

All political subdivisions of the state engaging in motor vehicle inspections shall maintain records according to their records retention schedule which will include the following: class of vehicle, date of inspection, make of vehicle, model year, and license plate number displayed on the vehicle, defects by category, identification of inspector and mileage or odometer reading on the vehicle.

Issuance of Safety Stickers

(A) All political subdivisions of this state engaging in motor vehicle inspection, upon determining that a vehicle complies with the requirements of Chapter 4513 of the Ohio Revised Code and the rules of 4501:2-1-04 of the Ohio Administrative Code, shall affix a safety sticker to the windshield of said vehicle.

¹ For the purposes of this policy only, any private fire company (as defined in the Ohio Revised Code 9.60) serving or under contract with a political subdivision to provide fire protection services, is considered to be a "political subdivision"

(B) The safety sticker shall be affixed in compliance with section 4513.24 of the Ohio Revised Code and shall meet the following specifications:

1. A sticker designating the vehicle as a Public Safety Vehicle
2. The annual inspection sticker, in addition to the imprinted information on the face, shall include on the reverse side of each sticker: date of inspection, identification of issuing inspection station, designation of vehicle function (i.e. volunteer fire fighter – VF; volunteer rescue – VR; or both VF and VR), and designation of members' unit of locality.
3. The chief of the department can only request a member's vehicle to be used as a public safety vehicle for his/her department. If a member is associated with more than one volunteer agency and wants their vehicle to be recognized as a Public Safety Vehicle for more than one agency, that department must inspect the vehicle and list the individual on their decal request form referencing the decal number of the existing decal and noting it on the form that anew decal is not needed when making a decal application request with the Division of State Fire Marshal.

5. Motor Vehicle Equipment Standards for Steering

Motor vehicles shall be inspected to determine if:

(A) Steering assembly operates normally.

(B) There is not more than the following movement (play) in steering wheel:

Power steering-two inches

Manual steering-three inches

(C) Sector shaft is secure.

(D) There is no binding or excessive lash in the steering assembly.

6. Motor Vehicle Equipment Standards for Tires

All tires shall have a minimum of one sixteenth of one inch depth of tread on the road surface. All tires shall be free of major bumps or bulges, breaks, thrown tread or any condition which would constitute an unsafe condition.

7. Motor Vehicle Equipment Standards for Wheels and Rims

Wheel rims shall not be badly bent or twisted. Wheel bolts, nuts, studs, or lugs shall not be loose, missing or damaged.

8. Motor Vehicle Equipment Standards for Brakes

(A) Definitions:

1. "Service brake" means the primary brake for retarding, stopping and controlling a vehicle.
2. "Emergency brake" means a brake system independent in application from the service brake used for stopping or holding a vehicle in an emergency or while parked.
3. "Pedal reserve" means the amount of total pedal travel left in reserve when the pedal is depressed to the "brake applied" position.

(B) Brakes will be inspected to determine if:

1. There is sufficient brake pedal. Hydraulic brake system shall be tested with vehicle in a stopped position. Driver should be able to maintain brake pedal height under moderate foot force (forty to sixty pounds) for one minute.
2. There is sufficient brake pedal reserve. With a vehicle in stopped position and the brake pedal depressed under moderate foot force (forty to sixty pounds for nonpowered systems and fifteen to twenty pounds in power assisted systems) there shall be a minimum of approximately one-third of the total available pedal travel (manufacturers specification) remaining on nonpowered assisted systems. On power assisted systems, checking with motor running, there shall be one-fifth or more of the total available pedal travel remaining when pedal is depressed under moderate foot force.
3. The service brake shall stop the vehicle in the distance required by law. Visual inspection shall be made for leakage of brake cylinders on all wheels. The test may be made using a mechanical testing device approved by the Superintendent of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, or on a level, dry, smooth, hard surface, free of loose material, oil or grease, using the service brake only to stop the vehicle.

Vehicles having brakes on all wheels shall come to a stop in thirty feet or less from a speed of twenty miles per hour. Vehicles not having brakes on all wheels shall come to a stop in forty feet or less from a speed of twenty miles per hour.

4. The emergency brake shall hold the vehicle on any grade on which it is operated, under all conditions of loading, on a surface free from snow, ice or loose material and shall be adequate to stop the vehicle in event the service brake should fail.

The emergency brake shall hold the vehicle in stopped position when less than two-thirds of the actuator stroke is used. A test shall be made by setting the emergency brake and then attempting to move the vehicle in forward gear at an idle.

9. Motor Vehicle Equipment Standards for Lighting

A) Headlights - Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with at least two headlights with at least one near each side of the front of the motor vehicle. Said lights shall be in working order. All headlights shall conform to the standards set forth under Section 4513.14 of the Revised Code. Every motor vehicle having multiple beam road lighting equipment shall be equipped with a beam indicator required in Section 4513.15(B) in working order.

(B) Focus and Aim of Headlights - The focus and aim of every headlight shall comply with the requirements of Section 4513.19 of the Revised Code.

(C) Color of lights - No vehicle shall be equipped with a light of any color other than white or amber mounted on the front nor shall any vehicle be equipped with a light of any color other than red mounted on the rear, with the exception of turn signals, warning lamps and backup lamps, thereof: except those operating under special permits pursuant to Section 4513.34 of the Revised Code; public safety vehicles, emergency vehicles, disabled vehicles, school buses, traffic line strippers, snow plows, rural mail delivery vehicles, funeral escort vehicles, and similar equipment operated by the Department of Transportation, or local authorities, or vehicles or machinery permitted by Section 4513.11 of the Revised Code.

(D) License illumination light - Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a white light in working order placed in such a manner as to illuminate the rear registration plate as required in Section 4513.05.

(E) Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with at least two stop lights red in color with at least one near each side of the rear of the motor vehicle. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one stop light.

(F) Unauthorized lights - No motor vehicle shall be equipped with lights prohibited in Sections 4513.12, 4513.13 and 4513.17 of the Revised Code.

10. Motor Vehicle Equipment Standards for Turn Signals

(A) Motor vehicles manufactured or assembled on or after January 1, 1954, shall be equipped with an electrical or mechanical directional signal device capable of clearly indicating an intention to turn either to the right or to the left and which shall be visible from both the front and rear. Said signals shall be in working order.

(B) Turn signal lamps shall be visible at a distance of not less than 300 feet in normal sunlight.

11. Motor Vehicle Equipment Standards for Glass

Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with safety glass as required in section 4513.26 of the Revised Code: Such glass shall be free of discoloration or diffusion, cracks and unauthorized obstructions as set forth in section 4513.24 of the Revised Code.

12. Motor Vehicle Equipment Standards for Seat Belts

Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with seat belt assemblies as required in Section 4513.262 of the Revised Code.

13. Motor Vehicle Standards for License Plates

Every motor vehicle shall display in plain view on the front and rear of the motor vehicle the distinctive number and registration mark, including any county identification sticker and any validation sticker issued under sections 4503.19 and 4503.191 (4503.19.1) of the Revised Code, furnished by the director of public safety. All license plates shall be securely fastened so as not to swing, and shall not be covered by any material that obstructs their visibility.

14. Motor Vehicle Equipment Standards for Exhaust Systems

(A) Every motor vehicle with an internal combustion engine shall at all times be equipped with an exhaust system which is in good working order and in constant operation. No vehicle shall be equipped with a muffler cutout, bypass or similar device. No vehicle shall be equipped with a device which would produce excessive smoke or gas, or permit any other chemical to flow into or upon the exhaust pipe or muffler of such vehicle, or be equipped in any other way as to produce or emit smoke or dangerous or annoying gases from any portion of such vehicle, other than the ordinary gases emitted by the exhaust of an internal combustion engine under normal operation.

(B) No motor vehicle shall be equipped with an exhaust system which would produce any excessive, and/or unusual noise.

(C) Every motor vehicle shall at all times be equipped with a standard muffler for said type of vehicle or one that meets all of the above requirements.

15. **Motor Vehicle Equipment Standards for Rear View Mirror**
Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a mirror so located as to reflect to the operator a view of the highway to the rear of such vehicle. The operator shall have a clear unobstructed view to the rear of the vehicle by mirror.

16. Motor Vehicle Equipment Standards for Windshield Wipers

Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a device for cleaning rain, snow, or other moisture from the windshield, which device shall be maintained in good working order and so constructed as to be controlled or operated by the operator of the vehicle.

Every motor vehicle manufactured after January 1, 1968 that has a windshield as required by section 4513.24 of the Revised Code shall be equipped with a windshield washer maintained in operable condition at all times that is capable of cleaning the windshield in such a fashion as to leave the driver a clear view.

17. Motor Vehicle Equipment Standards for Horn and Warning Devices

(A) Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a horn which is in good working order and capable of emitting sound audible, under normal conditions, for a distance of not less than two hundred feet. No motor vehicle, except a public safety vehicle or an emergency vehicle, shall be equipped with any siren, whistle or bell.

(B) Every public safety vehicle or emergency vehicle shall be equipped with a siren, whistle, or bell, capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions for a distance of not less than five hundred feet and of a type approved by the director of public safety. (Vehicles in-service prior to December 1, 2007)

(C) Effective December 1, 2007, the type of siren approved by the director of public safety shall meet "Society of Automotive Engineers" (SAE) Standard J 1849. For any public safety vehicle or emergency vehicle placed into service on or after December 1, 2007 with a siren, the siren shall meet SAE Standard J 1849.

(D) The horn as required in section 4513.21 of the Revised Code shall be clearly identifiable as a motor vehicle horn. The device for operating the horn shall be properly marked meeting Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 571.101 of the Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) cited as 49 C.F.R. 571.101 regarding controls, telltales, and indicators and shall be located so it may be easily controlled by the driver.

18. **Parts of Vehicle Body Creating Dangerous Conditions** Every motor vehicle shall be equipped to have protruding objects or broken sharp edges of body or vehicle parts, which would be dangerous to any person coming in contact with same.

19. **Fuel System**

Every motor vehicle manufactured on or after January 1, 1968, if manufactured with a certified motor vehicle pollution control device, the device shall be correctly installed and in good working order at all times.

Every motor vehicle shall have all parts of the fuel system securely fastened.

A fuel tank filler cap shall be installed.

All fuel hoses, lines, tanks, or tubes shall not be in contact with moving components or extreme heat areas.

20. **Removal of Safety Stickers**

Any public safety sticker issued pursuant to successful inspection and certification under these rules shall be immediately removed upon disposal or transfer of ownership of the vehicle.

21. **Frequency of Inspection**

Each vehicle, in order to receive approval as a public safety vehicle, and to retain such approval, must be inspected at least annually as to comply with the foregoing standards of vehicle safety.

22. Display of Safety Stickers

No vehicle shall be operated as a public safety vehicle by a volunteer fire fighter or volunteer EMS service member without displaying a safety sticker reflecting inspection during the current calendar year, except that a sticker for the next immediate succeeding year may be displayed no more than ninety days prior to January 1st of the succeeding year. The effective date of all decals is from January 1 to December 31 of the particular year imprinted thereon.