## 2022 *move over. it’s the law.*

## Question and Answer

Learn these facts about the “Move Over” law so you can do your part to protect those who protect you and help spread the word about the safety campaign *Move Over. It’s the Law.* It’s not just the law — it’s the right thing to do.

**I’ve never heard of the “Move Over” law — What is it?**Laws vary from State to State, but in general: When an emergency vehicle with emergency lights activated is stopped on or next to a roadway, drivers approaching the emergency vehicle should (1) slow down (Note: Some States have specific requirements in this regard) (2) if safe to do so, move over a lane away from the stopped emergency vehicle.

**Who does the “Move Over” law protect?**  
The “Move Over” law protects all first responders, including law enforcement, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, safety service patrols, and towing vehicles.

**How do I know if my State has a “Move Over” law?**   
All 50 States have enacted “Move Over” laws. Visit DrivingLaws.AAA.com to learn about your State’s law.

**What is the penalty for violating the “Move Over” law?**Fines for violations of the “Move Over” law vary from State to State. In some States, violation of the law is punishable by jail time.

**Is it really that unsafe to drive next to a law enforcement officer or other first responder stopped on the side of a highway?**Yes. Making a traffic stop, investigating a crash, or assisting a motorist are some of the most dangerous things law enforcement officers do. Since 2017, there have been 149 law enforcement officers killed in traffic-related incidents. Remember that the law protects all first responders.

**Why am I hearing so much about this law now? Is it new?**No. In fact, the first “Move Over” law originated in South Carolina in 1996. Since then, every State has enacted such laws, with Hawaii becoming the 50th and final State to enact “Move Over” legislation in 2012. Unfortunately, not everyone is familiar with these laws, so the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is spreading the word.