

R. I. POLICE CHIEFS



Joint Committee on Volunteer Permits

**EMERGENCY SERVICE VOLUNTEER
WARNING LIGHT PERMIT
APPLICATION PACKAGE**

Rhode Island General Law 31-23-11.1 requires that the use and installation of red and white flashing lights on privately owned vehicles operated by emergency service volunteers be permitted **ONLY** by a legislatively appointed Joint Committee on Volunteer Permits composed of three fire chiefs and two police chiefs.

These permits are **NOT** transferable with sale of vehicle **AND** the permits must be surrendered upon separation from the authorizing emergency services agency.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL REQUESTS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE CHIEF OF THE AUTHORIZING AGENCY AND ALL PERMITS WILL BE MAILED DIRECTLY TO THE CHIEF OF THE AUTHORIZING AGENCY

DIRECT REQUESTS FROM INDIVIDUAL FIREFIGHTERS OR EMS PROVIDERS WILL NOT BE ACTED UPON.

Application may be made to the Joint Committee in Volunteer Permits by submitting the following:

- ✓ Completed Emergency Service Volunteer Warning Light Permit Application.
- ✓ Proof of completion of the Rhode Island Fire Academy "Warning Light" Course.
- ✓ Copy of vehicle registration(s), vehicle insurance card(s), and Driver's License.
- ✓ Check payable to Rhode Island Association of Fire Chiefs. (\$5.00 Per Permit)
- ✓ Self-addressed stamped envelope addressed to Chief of the requesting department.

Mail completed package to:

Joint Committee on Volunteer Permits
Rhode Island Association of Fire Chiefs
PO Box 6041
Providence, RI 02940

For more information, contact Chief Rick Susi

E-mail: rifirechiefs@gmail.com
Phone: 401-692-0795

The requesting chief will be notified of application status within 30 days.

The permit sticker must be affixed in lower left corner of front windshield and a copy of the approved permit application must be maintained inside the vehicle.

Please note that the authorizing police or fire chief may immediately suspend a permit and may make a request to the joint committee for revocation.

All rules and regulations listed in this package must be followed.

Failure to follow these rules and regulations may result in the suspension or revocation of the permit and may result in legal action by the local police.



EMERGENCY SERVICE VOLUNTEER PERMIT WARNING LIGHTS ON PERSONAL VEHICLES

Name (last, first, mi): _____ Agency: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Drivers License: _____

Street Address: _____ City/Town: _____ Zip: _____

Vehicle # 1 Registration: _____ VIN: _____

Year: _____ Make: _____ Model: _____

Vehicle # 2 Registration: _____ VIN: _____

Year: _____ Make: _____ Model: _____

Vehicle # 3 Registration: _____ VIN: _____

Year: _____ Make: _____ Model: _____

PLEASE READ AND SIGN BELOW

The facts set forth in my application for a warning light permit are true and accurate. I understand that any false statement may result in denial or subsequent revocation of an issued permit. The local police department for the community in which I provide volunteer service, is hereby authorized to make any investigation concerning possible motor vehicle violations or convictions. I consent to the release of such information concerning my driving record.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

To be completed by the Fire / EMS Chief of the requesting agency

Justification for permit: _____

I APPROVE: Warning Lights Only Warning Lights & Siren

Signature of Fire/EMS Chief: _____ Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

To be completed by the local Police Chief of the requesting agency

I approve the request of the Fire/EMS Chief for the operator and vehicles described above

Signature of Police Chief: _____ Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

To be completed by a designated representative of the Joint Committee on Volunteer Permits

Permit(s) Issued: Warning Light Warning Light & Siren Permit Denied

Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Vehicle # 1 Permit # _____ Vehicle # 2 Permit # _____ Vehicle # 3 Permit # _____

**This application process is established by
Rhode Island General Law**

31-23-11.1

Warning Lights On Private Vehicles.

(a) A joint committee for volunteer permits, three (3) of whom shall be appointed by the president of the Rhode Island Association of Fire Chiefs and two (2) of whom shall be appointed by the president of the Rhode Island Association of Police Chiefs, shall take responsibility for the following actions regarding warning lights on privately owned vehicles:

- (1) Develop procedures for the design, issuance, transfer and revocation of permit stickers;
- (2) Develop rules and regulations for the use of warning lights;
- (3) Develop minimum training standards for drivers;
- (4) Develop procedures to govern the board's activities.

(b) The fire chief or commander of a municipal or non-profit fire, rescue, or ambulance department shall take responsibility for the following actions regarding warning lights on privately owned vehicles:

- (1) Make application for permits to joint committee on volunteer permits;
- (2) Maintain a listing of vehicle registrations and vehicle identification numbers for which warning lights are issued;
- (3) Ensure that permits are removed from vehicles upon transfer of ownership;
- (4) Post in a conspicuous place at all times, standard operating guidelines for the proper use of warning lights.

(c) The chief or commander of any fire, rescue, or ambulance department shall limit the use of warning lights to chief officers, deputy chiefs, assistant chiefs, captains, or other members deemed necessary and appropriate by written justification to the joint committee on volunteer permits.

(d) The fire, rescue, or ambulance department must own any warning lights issued by the fire chief or commander of the department.

(e) Each authorized volunteer member of a fire, rescue, or ambulance department must affix a permit sticker on any vehicle utilizing warning lights in accordance with rules and regulations developed by the joint committee on volunteer permits. Authorized members shall only utilize these warning lights within their department jurisdiction as the members respond to an emergency or to provide protection while parked at the scene of an emergency.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ESTABLISHED BY THE
JOINT COMMITTEE ON VOLUNTEER PERMITS**

MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS

Class A Violations

An individual with a permit who receives a Class A violation WILL HAVE THEIR PERMIT AUTOMATICALLY SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF AT LEAST ONE YEAR.

Type A Violations include but are not limited to driving while intoxicated, driving under the influence of drug, negligent homicide arising out of the use of a motor vehicle, operating a vehicle during a period of suspension or revocation, using a motor vehicle for the commission of a felony, aggravated assault with a motor vehicle, operating a motor vehicle without the owner's authority, permitting an unlicensed person to drive, reckless driving, and hit and run driving.

Class B Violation

An individual with a permit who receives two Class B violations in a twelve month period WILL HAVE THEIR PERMIT AUTOMATICALLY SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF AT LEAST SIX MONTHS.

Type B Violations include but are not limited to all moving violations that are not specifically listed above as Type A violations.

GENERAL RULES

The permit applies to the listed firefighter/EMS Provider and does not apply to other vehicle operators.

The permit sticker must be affixed in lower left corner of the front windshield of the assigned vehicle.

The original or a copy of the approved permit application must be maintained in the vehicle at all times.

The copy of the permit must be provided upon request to any authorized law enforcement officer.

The copy of the permit must be provided upon request to any authorized fire department officer.

The authorizing police/fire/EMS chief may immediately suspend a permit at their discretion for cause.

The authorizing police/fire/EMS chief may request the joint committee to revoke a permit for cause.

The permit holder must ensure that each vehicle with a permit is properly insured.

The permit holder must ensure that each vehicle with a permit is properly registered.

The permit holder must ensure that each vehicle with a permit is properly inspected.

The permit holder must follow their department "POV Response" Standard Operating Guideline

The permit holder must remove the sticker from any vehicle that is sold or transferred.

The permit holder must report via e-mail if a sticker is removed from a vehicle, or lost, or destroyed.

The permit holder must report via e-mail if one Class A violation or two Class B violations are received

The permit holder must surrender all stickers if they are no longer a member of the authorizing agency.

VIOLATIONS OF GENERAL RULES

AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A PERMIT THAT FAILS TO FOLLOW THESE RULES AND REGULATIONS WILL HAVE THEIR PERMIT AUTOMATICALLY SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS AND WILL BE CONTACTED BY THE COMMITTEE FOR INVESTIGATION AND FURTHER ACTION DEPENDING ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

The Joint Committee on Volunteer Permits may also recommend legal action by the local police.