

To: All Drivers of State-Owned Vehicles  
From: Stephen McGirr, Director  
DAS/Fleet Operations  
Date: January 1, 2019  
Subject: Unobstructed Windshield and Removal of Snow & Ice from  
Passenger and Commercial Motor Vehicles

\*\*\*\*\*

*State Employees operating State Vehicles are required to be compliant with Section 14-99f and Section 14-252a of the Connecticut General Statutes.*

*Sections of these statutes that are particularly relevant include:*

**Sec. 14-99f. Windshield. Obstruction of view.** (a) Each motor vehicle shall be equipped with a windshield of a type prescribed by section 14-100 and a windshield cleaner or wiper in effective working order located directly in front of the operator while in use on the highway. **The windshield shall be reasonably free of defects and accumulations, inside and out, of snow, ice, condensation and dirt.** The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a motorcycle or a vehicle designed by the manufacturer for non-highway operation without a windshield.

(b) No person shall operate a motor vehicle required to be equipped with such a windshield if the windshield is in a condition to interfere with an unobstructed view of the highway.

(c) No article, device, sticker or ornament shall be attached or affixed to or hung on or in any motor vehicle in such a manner or location as to interfere with the operator's unobstructed view of the highway or to distract the attention of the operator.

(d) Violation of any provision of this section shall be an infraction.

**\$92.00 Infraction**

**This Section of the Statute Applies To Passenger Vehicles**

**Sec. 14-252a. Removal of ice and snow from motor vehicle required. Penalty.**

(a) The operator of any noncommercial motor vehicle, as defined in section 14-1, shall remove any accumulated ice or snow from such motor vehicle, including the hood, trunk and roof of such motor vehicle, so that any ice or snow accumulated on such vehicle does not pose a threat to persons or property

while the vehicle is being operated on any street or highway of this state. Any such operator who fails to remove accumulated ice or snow that poses such a threat shall be fined seventy-five dollars and shall be deemed to have committed an infraction.

(b) If the operator of a noncommercial motor vehicle violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section and snow or ice is dislodged from such vehicle and causes personal injury or property damage, such operator shall be fined not less than two hundred dollars but not more than one thousand dollars for each offense.

(c) On and after December 31, 2013, the operator of any commercial motor vehicle, as defined in section 14-1, shall remove any accumulated ice or snow from such motor vehicle, including the hood, trunk and roof of such motor vehicle, so that any ice or snow accumulated on such vehicle does not pose a threat to persons or property while the vehicle is being operated on any street or highway of this state. Any such operator who fails to remove accumulated ice or snow that poses such a threat shall be fined seventy-five dollars and shall be deemed to have committed an infraction.

#### **\$120.00 Infraction**

#### **This Section of the Statute Applies to Commercial Motor Vehicles (i.e. Box Trucks, Buses, Wheelchair Transport Vehicles)**

(d) On and after December 31, 2013, if the operator of a commercial motor vehicle violates the provisions of subsection (c) of this section and snow or ice is dislodged from such vehicle and causes personal injury or property damage, such operator shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars but not more than twelve hundred fifty dollars for each offense.

(e) This section shall not apply to (1) any operator of a motor vehicle during a period of snow, sleet or freezing rain if such period began and continued during the period of the motor vehicle's operation, or (2) any operator of a motor vehicle during the time such vehicle is parked.

#### **Misdemeanor Summons (Court Appearance)**

**As stated in GL115, the Driver is responsible for promptly paying parking fines and other liability charges incurred while operating any motor vehicle on state business. Such fines are the personal liability of the driver.**