# TERRITORY OF GUAM Driver's Handbook



Department of Revenue and Taxation Motor Vehicle Division

### **FOREWORD**

This booklet had been prepared to assist you in passing the required written test given prior to obtaining a Learner's Permit, Instruction Permit or Guam Driver's License depending on the applicant's circumstances. The main purpose of driver-examining is to determine whether an applicant for licensing has the knowledge and skills needed for the safe operation of a motor vehicle. When the driver successfully passes the examination, this means he meets established standards of motor vehicle operation on Guam for the type of license applied for.

However, we would be failing on our obligation to you if that was all we offered for there is a great deal more to driving than being able to make a proper left turn. Therefore, we have added life-saving suggestions that will be useful to the first time driver as well as the experienced. This booklet is not only a guide to passing the driver's written test, it is a guide for Safe Driving.

### YOUR VEHICLE: A BENEFIT OR CAUSE OF FATALITY

The car has become a necessity in our modern society, but must its benefits mean that an average of over ten 10 people die each year on Guam's road? The DRIVER, not the car, is RESPONSIBLE for most of the deaths on our highway. Please remember this when you are studying this book and while you are driving.

### **SAFETY BELTS SAVE LIVES**

This is one piece of information that can never be repeated too much. Studies of accident outcomes suggest that fatality rates among car occupants are reduced by between 30 and 50 percent if seat belts are worn. The US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that death risks for a driver wearing a lap-shoulder seat belt are reduced by 48 percent. The same study indicated that in 2007, an estimated 15,147 lives were saved by seat belts in the United States\*. This updated booklet contains the latest seat belt requirements for Guam which include the new child restraint provisions. The potential for saving the lives of you and your passengers takes only 5 seconds for you to buckle up – and those five seconds can be the difference between walking away from the accident or sustaining serious injuries or worse.

\*Source: Wikepedia – Seat Belt Legislation

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# Section I GUAM DRIVER'S LICENSE

### 1. THE DRIVING PRIVILEGE

Driving a motor vehicle on public streets and highways is a privilege granted by the Territory according to the ruling of the courts. It is not a right.

Before the Territory can issue a permit or driver's license, you must show that you have the necessary skill. The law states that your ability to drive must be tested and proved by an examination given by the Territory.

A driver's license is evidence that the Territory has granted you the privilege of driving on the public roadways within its boundaries. It shows that the Territory has judged it safe to grant the driving privilege to you. Every driver must be licensed and must carry their valid license with them at all times while driving on Guam.

If you abuse the privilege, it may be taken away from you by legal means for various periods of time, or revoked permanently under some circumstances.

### 2. EXCEPTIONS TO WHO NEEDS A LICENSE

A person employed by or in the service of the United States while operating a vehicle owned or controlled by the United States need not obtain an operator's or chauffeur's license.

### 3. ELIGIBILITY - AGE AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

A person at least 15  $\frac{1}{2}$  years of age who can pass the examination and meet the requirements of mental and physical ability is entitled to consideration for a Guam driver's license.

### a. Age Requirements for Minors

For purposes of obtaining a Guam driver's license, minors are persons under 18 years of age. Applicants under 18 must have a parent or legal guardian appear in person during the initial application process to sign the application form prior to taking the written examination.

### b. Learner's Permits

Before anyone can drive well, he needs to have a good deal of actual driving practice. The law, therefore, provides for the issuance of a learner's permit which allows a person qualified for a license by age and other conditions to drive on public streets and highways when accompanied by a ¹fully licensed driver. Holders of learner's permits do not have the right to drive alone, not even to the Motor Vehicle Division for the purpose of taking an examination.

### c. U.S. Driver's License Holders

All U.S. Driver's Licenses are valid for 30 days upon arrival on Guam. To obtain a Guam Driver's License, primary requirements are for the applicant to fill out the Guam Driver's License Application (see next section entitled: "Applying for Your Driver's License") and provide his/her U.S. Driver's license, social security card and one of the following valid identification documents:

Passport \* Military I.D.(active duty or dependent I.D.'s only \* Guam I.D. \* Naturalization Certificate \* Alien Registration Card \* U.S. Mainland I.D. with Photo \* Firearms I.D. \*

Additional documentation may be required as Guam is working toward full compliance with the Federal Real ID Act. Please note that obtaining a Guam Driver's License does not change an individual's residential status but gives the holder the privilege to drive on Guam.

### d. Foreign Driver's License Holders

A person having in his immediate possession a valid operator's license or chauffeur's

license issued by the Republic of Palau, the Federal States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Japan, the Republic of China (Taiwan), countries of the European Union, Canada, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of the Philippines, or Australia may drive a motor vehicle upon the highways for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days from the dates such person arrived on Guam. However upon the expiration of such thirty (30) day period, such person must (i)apply for a Guam driver's license (See next section entitled: "Applying for Your Driver's License") and (ii) be required to take a written test, and if that person passes the written test, then a driver's license shall be issued; provided, however, if such person fails the written test twice, such person shall be required to complete a driver's education seminar before being allowed to retake the test, such seminar must include at least eight (8) hours of classroom instruction and four (4) hours of in-car instruction, and must pass the required road test. An individual is entitled to take a written test only three times pursuant to this Subsection, and be issued a license under this Subsection, and individual must pass both the written and the road test.

### 4. APPLYING FOR YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE

To apply for a driver's license, you will need to appear in person before a driver's license examiner with one of the following valid (not expired) identification document:

Passport (Foreign passports must have valid permanent resident card)\*
Military I.D. (active duty or dependent I.D.'s only)\* Guam I.D. \*
Naturalization Certificate \* Alien Registration Card \* U.S. Mainland I.D. with
Photo \* Firearms I.D.

### a. Information and Identification.

The law declares that an application for a license or permit shall submit an application to the Department of Revenue and Taxation on a form prescribed by it, verifying under oath and containing the following information.

- 1. The applicant's full name, date of birth, sex, mailing and residence addresses;
- 2. The height, weight, and color of eyes of the applicant;
- 3. The kind of license applied for;
- 4. Whether the applicant has been licensed previously as an operator or chauffeur, and if so, when and in what jurisdiction and whether or not any such license has been suspended or revoked, and if so, the date of and reason for such suspension or revocation.
- 5. Whether the applicant has previously been refused an operator's or chauffeur's license in Guam, and if so, the date and the reason for such refusal.
- 6. Whether the applicant has previously operated a motor vehicle, and if so, for what length of time;
- 7. Whether the applicant has normal use of both hands and feet.
- 8. Whether the applicant has been ever been afflicted with heart condition, epilepsy, paralysis, insanity or other disability or disease affecting his ability to exercise reasonable and ordinary control in operating a motor vehicle upon a highway.
- 9. Whether the applicant understands traffic signs and signals.
- 10. One (1) parent or guardian of an applicant under the age of eighteen (18) shall attest to his relationship with the minor; certify the correctness of

- information furnished on the application form; give his consent to the issuance of a license to the applicant and shall sign the application.
- 11. The applicant and licensing officer shall sign all approved applications and date the application at the time signatures are made; and
- 12. A valid Certificate of Completion of a driver's education course by the applicant, if the applicant is applying for a license for the first time or if the applicant is under eighteen (18) years of age, and any other information necessary to determine whether the applicant is entitled to a license.

**Of Major Importance**, the applicant's name must be exactly the same on all submitted documentation, any variation such as a missing middle name or a different last name without certified copies of documents proving the change in name will result in the rejection of the application.

### **5. TYPES OF LICENSES**

- **a. Operator License:** An operator is a person, other than a chauffeur, who drives or is in actual physical control of a motor vehicle upon the highway.
- **b. Chauffeur License:** issued to a person who is employed by another for the purpose of driving a motor vehicle on the highways and receives compensation therefore. An applicant for a chauffeur's license must be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- **c. Motorcycle License:** required for all military and civilians who intend to operate a motorcycle on the roads of Guam. Guam law requires use of an approved, securely fastened safety helmet for both driver and passenger under the age of eighteen (18) years of age. In addition, it is recommended that the headlight be used during all driving, both day and night.
- d. Taxi License: issued to person operating a taxi cab for the purpose of compensation. All persons applying for a taxi license are required to be familiar with Section 11101 of Title 16 Guam Code Annotated. An applicant for a taxi license must be at least twenty one (21) years of age, who is a U.S. Citizen or has a current permanent resident card accompanied by a valid foreign passport.

### 6. DRIVER'S LICENSE/PERMIT

When you receive your regular license, inspect it carefully to be sure all the information is correct. It should contain your true full name, date of birth, brief personal description. Signature, issued date, expiration date and mailing address. It may also indicate if you are an organ donor or have a hearing and speech disability "HSD".

### 7. GRADUATED DRIVER'S LICENSING

For First time Driver's License Applicants (Applicants who have never been licensed to drive anywhere or who have only partially completed the Graduated Driver's Licensing process in another jurisdiction)

The following three stage requirements apply to all new prospective first time drivers licensees.

### **Stage 1: Learner's Permit**

a. Minimum age is fifteen and half (15 years, 6 months) years.

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- Candidates are required to pass a vision and written knowledge tests. The written test must consist of rules of the road, traffic signs and signals as provided by certified Driver's Education Schools (See Driver's Education Requirements below).
- b. Permit holders under the age of eighteen (18) must be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian who is a fully licensed driver at all times while driving. (In the event the permit holder does not have a parent or guardian who is a fully licensed driver, that parent or guardian may designate, during the application process for a Learner's Permit, a responsible adult who is a fully licensed driver who is either: Twentyone (21) years of age or older, or the permit holder's spouse to accompany the Permit holder while driving.)
- c. Permit holders eighteen (18) years or over must be accompanied by a licensed driver who is either:
  - Twenty-One (21) years of age or older, or
  - The Permit Holder's spouse at all times while driving, except for the United States military personnel while on their work duty schedule or their spouses.
- d. The permit holder's parent, guardian, or designee must certify that the permit holder, who is under the age of eighteen (18) years, has completed at least fifty (50) hours of supervised driving, ten (10) hours of which must be during the night time hours after 7:00p.m.
- e. Zero Tolerance for Alcohol:
  - Permit Holders must not have a blood alcohol content that exceeds 0.02 at any time while driving. Permit holders must not be at fault in any collision and remain conviction free of all traffic and motor vehicle code violations for six (6) consecutive months to move to Stage 2.
- f. Law enforcement officers shall report all violations to the Department of Revenue and Taxation within ten (10) working days of the violation. Upon receipt of a report of a violation by the Department, the permit holder who has violated any of the provisions of this Act shall not advance to the next stage of licensure for an additional period of six (6) months.

### **Stage 2: Intermediate License**

- a. Minimum age is sixteen (16) years.
- b. Zero tolerance for Alcohol:
  - Intermediate Licensees must not have a blood alcohol content that exceeds 0.02 at any time while driving.
- c. Intermediate Licensees under the age of eighteen (18) years must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian who is fully licensed driver at all times while driving between the hours of:

10:00 p.m. - 6:00 a.m. on weeknights and

12:00 a.m. - 6:00 a.m. on weekend nights, except

While driving to and from work (Driver must show proof of employment)

- d. Intermediate licensees eighteen (18) years and over must be accompanied by a licensed driver who is either twenty-one (21) years of age or older, or the permit holder's spouse at all times while driving between 12:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. nightly, except while driving to and from work. (The driver must show proof of employment).
- e. Licensee must not be at fault in any collision and remain conviction

free of all traffic and motor vehicle code violations for twelve (12) consecutive months.

For Stage 1 and 2, law enforcement officers shall report all violations to the Department of Revenue and Taxation within ten (10) working days of the violation. Upon receipt of the report, the permit holder, who has violated any of the provisions of this Act, shall *not* advance to the next stage of licensure for an additional period of six (6) months.

### **Stage 3: Full Licensure**

- a. Minimum age must be seventeen (17) years of age.
- b. Must have completed Intermediate Licensing stage or be *exempt* as a result of possessing a valid driver's license from any state, territory or possession of the United States or from countries that have been determined to use prudent and acceptable driver's licensing standards.

### 8. Driver's Education Requirements

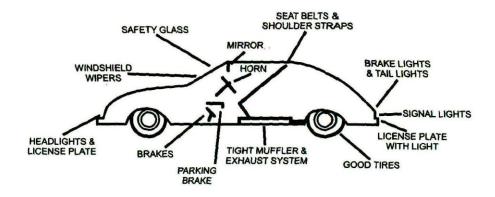
Applicant is required to complete a certified Driver's Educational Course consisting of:

- a. Forty (40) hours of training: thirty-two (32) classroom hours and eight (8) hours in-automobile or on-road training.
- b. Such training be applicable to all minors (15 years 6 months) and to those adults who are first time driver's license applicants.
- c. Driver's Educational School (U.S.)
- d. Original certification must be presented upon scheduling for a written or road examination.

### 9. YOUR EXAMINATION FOR A LICENSE

Your examination for a driver's license will include the following:

- Any eye test shall be given to determine whether you meet the Guam minimum vision requirement of 20/40 on both eyes. If you need glasses or contact lenses to pass this test, your license will indicate a restriction that you must always wear glasses or contact lenses when driving.
- A road sign test may be given to determine whether you can recognize a certain sign even when words are obscured or when only the shape of the sign is given.
- The examination shall include a test of the applicant's knowledge and understanding governing the operation of vehicles upon the highway and of traffic signs and signals.
- The applicant shall be required to give an actual demonstration of his ability to exercise ordinary and reasonable control in operating a motor vehicle by driving the same under the supervision of an examining officer.



### a. THE ROAD EXAMINATION

Any motor vehicle used for a driving examination must meet all Guam Motor Vehicle Registration and safety law requirement. Your vehicle, at a minimum, must have the following equipment working and in proper adjustment: headlights, brake lights, signal lights, wipers, windshield, horn, side view and rearview mirrors, tires and seatbelts.

The Driver's License Examiner will ask you to drive some distance in traffic where you will meet the usual conditions offered by such driving. Special driving problems may be presented for your solution, but will serve as examples of traffic situations you may meet at any time. The test is simply a proof of your ability to exercise ordinary and reasonable control in operating a motor vehicle. While being asked to demonstrate your knowledge of the arm signals, you may use your mechanical signal device during the test.

- Before or while backing out from a parking stall or along a curb always look over your left and right shoulder for passing vehicles, the examiner will note whether you give a good signal and whether you wait to enter the stream of traffic when it is safe to do so.
- Keep proper control of your car while using the gas pedal, brake, and other controls as you will be observed on how well you operate these mechanisms.
- Driving in the proper lane on the street or highway: The examiner will note whether you stay in the proper lane, or change lanes carefully and with proper signals, and follow other vehicles at a safe distance.
- Driving through blind or crowded road crossings: The examiner will note whether you pay attention to signs and signals, right-of-way, pedestrians, and other motorists on the highway.
- Making turns: The examiner will note whether you take the proper lane to make the turn, giving a proper signal at the required distance before turning, and whether you turn too wide or too sharp.
- Making a stop: The examiner will note whether you smoothly come to a complete stop within a reasonable distance, before entering such intersection on such through highway, or whether you can stop quickly and safely in an emergency.
- Control your car while backing in a straight line or in offset backing (the maneuver most often used to park a vehicle parallel to a curb).
- Observe proper speed, giving enough attention to the number and speed of nearby cars, people crossing the street or highway, condition of the highway, condition of the weather, and the distance you can see under the conditions existing at the time.
- Keep a safe distance when following another vehicle, passing people walking along on the highway, driving through intersections and when parking.
- Be courteous to other motorists sharing the roads and highways with you.
- Pay special attention to your driving.

The road examination will cover several areas. Follow all instructions of the examiner who rides with you. He will play no tricks on your and will not ask you do to anything against the law. The examiner will answer any questions about proper driving techniques before or after the driving test. Do not converse unnecessarily with the examiner during the test, as this may interfere with your understanding of

the examiner's instructions or the examiner's scoring of your driving skills. At the end of the test, the examiner will show you a standard score sheet which will be discussed with you.

### **b. DISCONTINUING THE ROAD EXAMINATION – AN EMERGENCY SAFETY MEASURE.**

Every person taking the road examination shall be informed of the following necessary safety rules:

The examination will be immediately discontinued and counted as a failure if the applicant suffers a collision while driving, striking another vehicle, striking a pedestrian, or striking a fixed object. A violation or dangerous action that causes a collision or near-collision for vehicles in the immediate vicinity, even though the road examination vehicle is not involved in the damage or contact, will also cause the ending of the test.

The same immediate action to end the road examination shall be taken by the examiner if the applicant does any of the following:

- Make it necessary for another driver to exercise unusual expertness to prevent a collision or for a pedestrian to dodge in order to avoid being struck.
- Make it necessary for the examiner to come to his aid in order to control the vehicle.
- Stalls the car within a busy intersection because of inexperience or lack of skill.
- Drive two wheels over the curb or onto the sidewalk.
- Commits any driving fault, either of skill or excessive caution, which causes immediate danger to any person or property.
- Flagrantly violates any traffic law for which a driver might be arrested.
- Refuses to try any maneuver required by the examiner.
- Fails repeatedly to follow instructions.

### 10. VALID PERIOD OF THE DRIVER'S LICENSE and BASIC FEES

Every license is good for a period of three (3) years (Optional: five years) after the first anniversary of the date of birth of an applicant occurring after the date of issuance. Licensee may renew license ninety (90) days prior to expiration date. Five year option available for new applicants or upon renewal of a Guam Driver's License. Duplicate copes are allowed when replacing a lost, stolen or damaged five-year license.

### **Basic Fee Schedule:**

	Classes	Endorsements	Fees
•	Operator	Α	\$25.00
•	Chauffeur	В	\$25.00
•	Chauffeur Truck-Trac	tor C	\$25.00
•	Chauffeur Bus	D	\$25.00
•	Mini Bus	G	\$25.00
•	Motorcycle	F	\$25.00
•	Taxi	Е	\$32.00
•	Taxi Identification Ca	rd	\$25.00
•	Driver's License Rene	ewal	
	Three (3) year	rs	\$25.00
	Five (5) years		\$45.00
•	Duplicate License		\$25.00

<ul> <li>All Types of Permits</li> </ul>	\$10.00		
Intermediate License	\$10.00		
• Full Licensure (After Intermediate License, valid 3 years) \$10.00			
Driver's License Late Penalty			
Every three (3) months (charged day after			
Expiration)	\$5.00		
Not to exceed a total penalty of	\$40.00		
<ul> <li>Written Examination (English)</li> </ul>	\$15.00		

• Written Examination (LOTE, Language other than English)\$35.00

### 11. LOSS OF DRIVER'S LICENSE:

In the event that a Driver's License or Learner's Permit is lost, destroyed, or mutilated, the licensee or permittee may obtain a duplicate from the Department of Revenue and Taxation, Driver's License Examination Branch, by presenting an acceptable Identification document (See previous Section 1 No.6 Applying for Your License for the list of identification documents) to the examiner. If the lost license or permit is found it must be immediately surrendered to the Driver's Examination branch.

If you have lost a driver's license from another jurisdiction, you will need to contact the issuing authority and obtain a driver's license certification (Document evidencing validity of driver's license). Contact is usually made through the jurisdiction's on-line website. With the certification, another acceptable valid identification document and social security card, you will then need to visit our office for additional instructions. These initial documents provide the basis for the office to determine what further action you will need to take.

### **SAFE DRIVING TIPS**

### **Be a Defensive Driver**

A defensive driver is one who is always on the alert for the mistakes of others. "Expect the Unexpected." Remember you are sharing the road with all kinds of drivers. By anticipating another's error, you may avoid an accident. It is better to give up the right-of-way than to suffer an accident with property damage, injury, or death resulting. On the highways, we must all be "Our Brother's Keeper."

### Watch for Danger

- A vehicle suddenly slows down for no apparent reason. (Is there something in the road? Is he going to turn left?)
- A ball rolls into the street. (Will it be followed by a running child?)
- The front wheels of a parked vehicle move, or smoke comes out of its exhaust. (Will it pull out in front of you?)
- A vehicle has just stopped at the curb. (Will the driver suddenly open his door in the path of your vehicle?)
- An oncoming vehicle appears to be weaving from side to side. (Is the driver drunk or asleep?)
- A vehicle behind you is impatiently "riding your bumper." (Will he be able to stop if you stop? Will he suddenly dart out to pass you?"

### If You Wear Glasses or Sunglasses

If you are required to wear eye glasses while driving as per instruction on your driver's license, it is a good practice to have a spare pair with you whenever you're driving. Any accidental breaking or damage to them, rendering your glasses unusable, would create a hazardous situation.

A very important safety principle is don't use tinted prescription glasses or such dark devices as daylight fades or after dark. In dusk or darkness, they can reduce your visible distance drastically and be very hazardous. Beware of tinted glasses that disguise the actual color of signs and traffic lights, such lenses have caused serious accidents by misleading the driver.

### **NEVER DRIVE WHEN:**

- You are feeling Sick, Tired, Sleep, Angry, or Emotionally Upset or
- Under Sedatives or Hazardous **DRUGS** or
- If you had even **ONE DRINK!**

### **Section II**

# TRAFFIC LAWS – RULES OF THE ROAD The Driver's Observance of the Law

### 1. COMPLIANCE with TRAFFIC LAWS and ORDINANCES

Drivers are required by law to comply with Guam traffic laws as set forth in the Guam Vehicle Code. Exceptions may arise when a traffic officer or policeman gives orders that conflict with traffic laws or ordinances. In such cases, the officer's directions must be complied with.

# 2. COMPLIANCE with ORDERS of TRAFFIC and POLICE OFFICERS and FIREMEN

Any traffic direction signal by a traffic or police officer or a fireman on duty must be complied with. To meet a special situation or emergency, an officer may give orders that conflict with traffic laws or ordinances. In such cases, the officer's orders have priority.

### 3. COMPLIANCE with OFFICIAL SIGNS, SIGNALS and MARKINGS

Directions, controls, and limits indicated by all official traffic signs, signals, and markings must be observed. Exceptions may arise when an officer gives directions to meet a special situation or emergency. In such cases, the officer's orders must be complied.

### The Driver's Signal

Every driver must give a signal to tell other drivers on the road when he intends to change the direction in which his vehicle is moving or to reduce his speed or stop. These signals are described in the law. Signals may be given by hand-and-arm motion or by signal lights , or a mechanical signal device that clearly indicates to both approaching and following traffic the driver's intention to turn right or left.

If you signal with flashing vehicle signal lights, be sure the signal does not continue to flash after you have completed your turn. When you plan a series of driving changes, such as a stop for a traffic light or stop sign followed by a right turn, you should always signal first for the action you intend to take first. Thus, in the situation mentioned above, you would signal first for a stop; come to a full stop; then signal for the right turn.

At night, when the hand-and-arm signal cannot be seen, it is more efficient to use the vehicle signal lights. Although the law permits use of such signals during daylight, it is a wise precaution to use the hand-and-arm signals when bright sunlight may make it hard to see lights.

### **Arm Signals for STOPS and TURNS (Diagram Reflects Rear of Vehicle)**







**Starting Your Vehicle** 

When starting from a parking stall or along the curb, first look for approaching vehicles from the rear, then give the proper signal. Pull out slowly. Remember, you do not have the right-of-way.

When starting from a garage or driveway, be sure to watch for approaching vehicles and pedestrians. Move cautiously to join the traffic at a suitable speed.

If your starting position requires backing, it may be necessary to inspect what is behind your vehicle very carefully before you begin to move it. If necessary, leave the vehicle to look behind it. Then, keep the space behind you well in view through your rear view mirrors and windows.

### **Stopping and Parking**

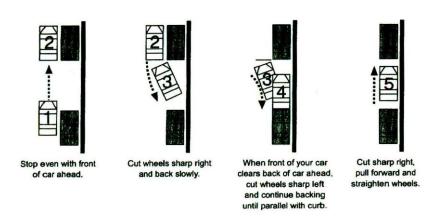
- Always give a clear signal for slowing and stopping before you begin to park your vehicle.
- Never leave your vehicle until you have stopped the engine and set the parking brake.
- Driving in traffic often requires the ability to park your vehicle parallel to a curb. The method for this at a right-hand curb is explained below:
- 1. Select a space large enough for your vehicle. Stop beside and about a foot away from the vehicle in front of the space which you want to park.
- 2. Back up slowly. When you are about two feet back, begin turning your wheel to the right. Then turn all the way, still backing slowly. Watch for traffic and pedestrians. Keep on backing until your vehicle is at a 45 degree angle with the street then stop. Check your angle: this is the secret to successful parallel parking.
- 3. Straighten your wheels and back up until your front bumper is even with the rear bumper of the vehicle ahead. Turn your wheel sharply left and move back slowly.
- 4. Keep backing until your wheels almost touch the curb. Your right wheel should be approximately six inches from the curb. Straighten your wheels and move up to the center of the space. Set your parking brake.
- The Legal Parking Position is with the right front and rear wheels of the vehicle within 18 inches of the curb.

 When you have to stop on a highway, be sure to park with all four wheels off the pavement if possible. If you can not park off the roadway, leave an unobstructed width of highway opposite your car. Your parked car should be visible 300 feet in each direction.

### **Parking Restrictions**

When angle parking is not clearly designated, a vehicle must be parked parallel to the curb, heading in the direction of the traffic. When parallel parked, the vehicle's right wheels shall be within 18 inches of the curb or edge of the street, unless a different system of parallel parking is clearly indicated by official traffic signs or markers. Always remove your keys from the ignition after parking your vehicle.

### **Steps in Parallel Parking**



Front and rear bumper shall not be closer than two feet from the other vehicles when in parked position, unless the street is otherwise marked.

No person shall park a vehicle or permit it to stand, whether attended or unattended, upon a public highway in any of the following places:

- 1. Within an intersection (except when local ordinances permits, next to curb.)
- 2. On a sidewalk or crosswalk.
- 3. Between a safety zone and the adjacent curb or within thirty (30) feet of points on the curb immediately opposite the ends of a safety zone, unless official signs indicate a different length.
- 4. Within twenty-five (25) feet of the intersection or curb lines, or if none, then within fifteen (15) feet of the intersection of property lines at an intersection of highways.
- 5. Within thirty (30) feet upon the approach to any official flashing signal, stop sign or traffic signal located at the side of the highway.
- 6. Within fifteen (15) feet of the driveway entrance to any fire station
- 7. Within fifteen (15) feet of any fire hydrant.
- 8. In front of a private driveway, except that the owner of such private driveway may so park.
- 9. Immediately next to any street or highway excavation or obstruction, nor opposite the same, unless a clear and unobstructed width of not less than twenty (20) feet upon the main traveled portion of such street or highway shall be left free for the passage of other vehicles thereon.
- 10. On the roadway or highway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the curb or edge of the highway.
- 11. No person shall drive any vehicle, motorcycle, or bicycle, nor shall any person stop,

park, or leave standing any vehicle, motorcycle, or bicycle whether attended or unattended, upon the beaches of Guam, except that a person may driver a vehicle across the beach to the water's edge for the sole purpose of launching or retrieving a boat or fishing equipment. (Maximum fine: \$100.00)

### The Right-of-Way Rules are:

# At intersections without traffic control devices, such as STOP or YIELD signs or Traffic Control Signs:

 The first vehicle in the intersection has the right to go ahead. Keep in mind, however, that it is the responsibility of all drivers to Yield the right-of-way. When two vehicles enter an intersection from different streets or highways at the same time, the vehicle on the left shall Yield the right-of-way to the vehicle on the right.

### **Vehicle Entering Through Highway:**

- The operator of any vehicle shall stop at the entrance to a through highway and shall yield the right of way to other vehicles which have entered the intersection from the through highway or which are approaching so closely on the through highway as to constitute an immediate hazard and shall continue to yield the right of way to such approaching vehicles until such a time as he can proceed with reasonable safety.
- All vehicles on any secondary road which intersects with a through highway must STOP before entering or crossing the through highway, even if no official STOP sign is posted. If you are on the through highway and you see a vehicle some distance ahead that is crossing or about to cross after it has stopped at a STOP sign, you must slow down and allow the vehicle to cross.

### **Private Road or Driveways:**

When you are about to enter or cross a highway from any private road or driveway or from an alley, you shall yield the right of way to all vehicles on said highway. You must wait to enter the highway until it is safe to do so. When it can be done safely, you may cross a solid white or yellow line in the middle of the roadway into an alley or driveway. You may lawfully make a left turn across such a solid line for either of these maneuvers after you have made certain that no approaching vehicles are immediate hazards.

### **Emergency Vehicles**

Upon the approach of an authorized emergency vehicle (ambulance, police, fire equipment, civil defense, explosive ordinance, etc.) that is sounding a siren and/or displaying flashing red or blue lights, all highway users must yield the right-of-way, as stated in the Motor Vehicle Code of Guam.

- 1. The operators of all other vehicles shall yield the right-of-way and shall immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as close as possible to, the right-hand edge or curb of the highway clear of any intersection and thereupon stop and remain in such position until such authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer.
- 2. All pedestrians upon the highway shall remain in a place of safety until such authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer.

### Pedestrian's Right of Way at Crosswalks

- a. The operator of a vehicle shall yield the right of way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within any marked crosswalk or within any unmarked crosswalk at an intersection.
- b. Whenever any vehicle has stopped at a marked crosswalk or at any unmarked crosswalk at an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway, the operator of any other vehicle approaching from the rear shall not overtake and pass such stopped vehicles.

### **How to Make Turns**

### a. Rules for Left and Right Turns:

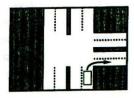
Keep your car in the proper lane during all types of turns.

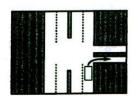
Signal for 100 feet before turning. You may need to signal for a longer distance if you must change lanes to make the turn properly.

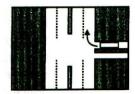
You may not legally turn or move to the right or to the left on a roadway unless such a movement can be made with reasonable safety, and until you have given the appropriate signal.

On right turns, stay within the right-hand lane. Do not turn wide. On left turns, avoid cutting the corners.

### b. Right Turns:





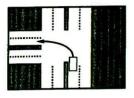


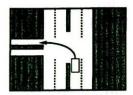
Unless signs or pavement markings clearly permit a right turn from more than one lane, the turn must be made (after signaling for 100 feet) from the extreme right-hand lane. It must be completed in the extreme right-hand lane you are entering.

### • Right turn Against a Red Light:

After you have come to a full stop for a red traffic light signal and have made sure that traffic permits, you may turn right against the red signal if no posted sign prohibits such a turn, provided you are in the extreme right-hand lane.

### c. Left Turns:







Several types of left turns are shown in the above diagrams. General rules for left turns that apply in all cases are these:

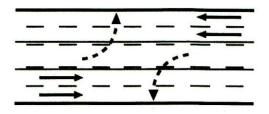
- 1. To start your left turn, get as close as possible to the left-hand edge of the extreme left-hand or portion of the roadway permitted for vehicles traveling in your direction on the street you wish to leave, unless signs or pavement markings indicate that left turns are prohibited unless a left-turn lane is present.
- 2. Wait and watch at the turning point until it is safe for you to complete your turn.
- 3. Turn your vehicle into the lane closest to the left that is proper for vehicles traveling in your direction in the roadway you are entering.

### d. Driving on Roadways Divided into Lanes for Traffic:

Whenever any roadways has been divided into three (3) or more clearly marked lanes for traffic, the following rules in addition to all others consistent herewith shall apply:

- a. A vehicle shall be driven as nearly as practical entirely within a single lane and shall not be moved from such a lane until the driver has first ascertained that such movement can be made with safety. Never change lanes in an intersection.
- b. Upon a roadway which is divided into three (3) lanes a vehicle shall not be driven in the center lane except when overtaking and passing another vehicle where the roadway ahead is clearly visible and such center lane is clear or traffic within a safe distance, or in preparation for a left turn or where such center lane is at the time allocated exclusively to traffic moving the direction the vehicle is proceeding and is signposted to give such notice of such allocation.
- c. Official signs may be erected directing slow moving traffic to use a designated lane or allocating specified lanes to traffic moving the in the same directions and drivers of vehicles shall obey all directions of every such sign.

USE OF THE CENTER LANE



An uneven number of traffic lanes is a standardized roadway design on Guam. Historically, this middle lane has been called Suicide Lane, Kamikaze Run, etc... due to unsafe and often illegal driving practiced here. It is actually a LEFT TURN lane and is only for turning left into or out of traffic. This lane is not to be used for passing and is not a safety zone for pedestrians. It is not only illegal to use the center lane for a walkway, it is positively suicidal.

Some defensive driving tips for using the middle lane:

- If there is a center lane, it must be used for all left turns.
- Always signal your intent to turn left and don't turn your wheels until it is safe to execute the full turn, because if you're hit from behind or in front, the turn of your wheels will send you direction into the oncoming traffic
- Extra caution should be taken before entering or exiting the center lane.

### **U-TURNS**

The U-Turn is described by law as a turn to proceed in the opposite direction. No U-Turns shall be made at the following locations:

- 1. On a curve or near the crest of a grade (hill) where your car cannot be seen for 300 feet either direction.
- 2. At any intersection where a traffic signal controls the movement of vehicles, including intersections where green arrows control the flow, unless a sign specifically says a U-Turn may be made.
- 3. Where there are vehicles too close that may cause a collision.
- 4. Where there are signs prohibiting U-Turns.
- 5. In front of the driveway entrance or approach to a fire station.
- 6. No U-Turns shall be made on a two-way street in a business or residential district, unless they shall be made at least one hundred (100) feet from an intersection and then only on such signal at such times and places as may be indicated by official signs.

**SUGGESTION**: When in doubt, drive around the block!

### **SPEED LIMITS**

- 1. All motor vehicles travelling upon the public highway shall be driven at a careful, prudent rate of speed not greater than nor less than is reasonable and proper, having due regard to the surface of the highway, the width of the highway and the traffic upon the highway and all other restrictions and conditions then and there existing.
- 2. In no event shall any motor vehicle be operated at a speed greater than the posted speed limit that will not permit it to be stopped within the assured clear distance ahead.
- 3. Speeds in excess of forty-five (45) miles per hour/eight (80) kilometers per hour shall be unlawful.
- 4. All vehicles shall reduce their rate of speed to ten(10) miles per hour when passing a bus while such bus is taking or discharging passengers unless such bus is stopping off the surface of the highway.
- 5. The speed limitations shall not apply to vehicles under the direction of the police in the actual chase or apprehension of violators of the law or of persons charged with or suspected to have committed any such violation, nor shall they apply to the Fire Department vehicles when traveling in response to a fire alarm, nor shall they apply to ambulances when such are traveling in actual emergencies. The exemptions set forth shall not, however, protect the driver of any such vehicle from the consequences of a reckless or unnecessary disregard of the safety of others.
- 6. The Chief of Police is hereby authorized to designate as may be reasonably necessary, and on a permanent, temporary, or intermittent basis, certain areas as limited speed areas and to mark such areas with appropriate warning signs. No vehicle shall be operated in such areas in excess of the maximum speeds as may be indicated by such signs.

### PASSENGER RESTRAINT DEVICES (Seat Belts)

1. The driver of a motor vehicle, excluding a motorcycle, in which a child under four (4) years of age is being transported, shall secure such child during transit in a child passenger restraint system which meets federal motor

- vehicle safety standards and is used in accordance with the manufacturer's operating instructions.
- 2. The driver of a motor vehicle, excluding a motorcycle, in which a passenger less than four feet nine (4'9") tall and between four (4) and eleven (11) years of age is being transported, shall secure such child during transit in a child passenger restraint system which meets federal motor vehicle safety standards and is used in accordance with the manufacturer's operating instructions.
- 3. Each driver and all passengers of a motor vehicle, excluding a motorcycle, shall be restrained by a seat belt assembly that meets federal motor vehicle safety standards and is used in accordance with the manufacturer's operating instructions.

Passengers riding in the bed of a pickup truck are exempted from the requirements to utilize a seat belt assembly, as stated in this section, provided, that the following criteria are met:

- 1. The bed of the pickup truck is surrounded on all four (4) sides by a secure vertical body extension, inclusive of a tailgate, that is at least fourteen (14) inches high;
- 2. All seats in the cab of the pickup truck are occupied by a passenger;
- 3. Passengers in the bed of a pickup truck are twelve (12) years of age or older;
- 4. Passengers in the bed of a pickup truck remain seated on the floor of the truck bed at all times;
- 5. Passengers are not leaning against the tailgate of the pickup truck;
- 6. There are no more than five (5) passengers riding in the bed of the pickup truck.

### **ELECTRONIC MESSAGING WHILE DRIVING (Texting)**

- 1. It is unlawful for a person to read, write or send electronic messages while operating a motor vehicle.
- 2. Any person who is guilty of a violation shall be punished by a fine not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100).

### **ACCESSIBLE PARKING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

Any person who parks in a designated accessible parking space, or who blocks access to aisles adjacent to an accessible parking space, on public property or private property available for public use, with a vehicle that does not have a special license plate, a removable windshield placard, or a temporary removable windshield placard is guilty of a violation.

Any person who parks in a designated accessible parking space, or who blocks access to aisles adjacent to an accessible parking space, on public property or private property available for public use, using a vehicle with a special license plate, a removable windshield placard, or a temporary removable windshield placard and who is not a qualified person with a disability is guilty of a violation, unless such person is using the vehicle or placard in connection with the transportation of a qualified person with a disability.

A violation of this section shall be punishable by a fine of not less than Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) and no more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).

### INDIVIDUALS WITH HEARING OR SPEECH DISABILITIES

Any resident of Guam who is a deaf, hearing-impaired or speech-impaired person may apply to the Department of Revenue and Taxation to have the notation "HSD" placed on the person's driver's license or Guam Identification Card. Applicant shall submit certain medical proof of deafness, hearing or speech impairment.

### **GUAM ROAD CONDITIONS**

The roads on Guam are built with coral aggregate and are extremely slippery – a hazard increased by wetness. There are several factors that cause this condition: the oil rich aggregate allows oil to rise to the top of the road surfaces and the coral base polishes easily to provide a smooth surface where algae grows easily in our humid climate. These factors, added to the frequent rain showers, combine to make our roads, at times, quite treacherous.

During heavier rains, it's advisable to turn on your headlights for increased visibility. Scan ahead for large puddles and slow down when you go through the water. Most vehicles lack protection on the underside and large quantities of water splashed up in the undercarriage can soak wiring, brake linings and other essential parts. Failure to negotiate large puddles with caution can result in a stall or in a brake failure of malfunction.

Keep your vehicle under control and your brakes in excellent condition. Always allow a safe distance between your vehicle and any other vehicle or person, so that you make a smooth stop. Jerky stops often cause dangerous skidding (hydroplaning). In the event you do find yourself skidding, DON'T SLAM on your brakes. Instead, take your foot off the accelerator and gently turn your wheels in the direction of the skid. Braking or over steering to correct may end up in another skid and locked brakes. Once the vehicle straightens up, gently brake to a stop.

In estimating stopping distance, you need to allow for your own reaction time and for braking distance. In following another vehicle, you should allow at least 1 car length for every 10 mph of speed. The road surface condition figures greatly in your stopping efficiency.

At 50 miles per hour, a vehicle with good brakes needs at least 200 feet of dry road in which to stop, but under wet conditions, 3 to 12 times as much distance is needed, making such high speeds extremely dangerous. To keep from skidding on wet, slippery streets, drive slowly. Allow more distance between your vehicle and others. Apply your brakes or gas pedal slowly and easily so that your starts and stops will be smooth.

# AVERAGE STOPPING DISTANCE SPEED Total REACTION DISTANCE MPH Distance (teet) 59 27 36 101 38 46 154 50 66 288 71 NOTE: These figures are based on actual tests of cars with brakes in excellent condition and on dry, leyel, hard surfaces.

### **OVERTAKING AND PASSING:**

### When Overtaking on the Right is Permitted

The operator of a motor vehicle may overtake and pass to the right of another vehicle only under the following conditions:

- 1. When the vehicle overtaken is making or is about to make a left turn.
- 2. Upon a highway where unobstructed pavement or sufficient width for two (2) or more lanes of vehicles in each direction.
- 3. Upon a one-way highway
- 4. Upon a highway only under conditions permitting such movement in safety.

The operator of a slow moving vehicle shall not be relieved from the duty to drive as closely as practicable to the right-hand edge of the roadway.

### Limitation on Overtaking on the Left

No vehicle shall be driven on the left side of the center lane of a roadway in overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction unless such left side is clearly visible and is free of oncoming traffic for a sufficient distance ahead to permit such overtaking and passing to be completely made without interfering with the safe operation of any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction or any vehicle overtaken.

No vehicle shall at any time be driven on the left side of the roadway under the following conditions:

- 1. When approaching the crest of a grade or upon a curve in the highway where the driver's view is obstructed within such distance as to create a hazard in the event another vehicle might approach from the opposite direction.
- 2. On a three-lane highway.
- 3. The foregoing limitations shall not apply upon a one-way roadway.

In a business or residential district where the lane is wide enough for two or more lanes of vehicles moving in your direction, you may pass on the right or left in this case, provided conditions are safe, but never drive off the paved or main traveled part of the roadway. There are many locations on Guam's roadways where you find exceptionally wide paved shoulder lanes. The legally traveled portion of the roadway ends where the solid white lines on your right begins. The shoulder lane is **NO**T for passing.

Before changing lanes to the left or right of the highway, give a signal to tell any driver

ahead or behind you that you are going to change position. Never make the change until you're sure the lane is clear. Don't rely on rear-view mirrors alone. Turn your head both ways and make sure no vehicle is about to pass you! Never pass to the right on a two-lane highway at an intersection. This type of passing is normally prohibited by "NO PASSING" signs.

### Passing on the Left and Restrictions, including Signs, Lines and Lanes

Whenever you wish you pass a vehicle on the left, remember these rules:

- 1. Where a highway is divided by a solid white or yellow line, no vehicle may cross over or drive to the left of the solid line, except for turning left at an intersection or into or out of a driveway of alley, or during a U-Turn if lawfully allowed or where signs authorize the use of off-center traffic lanes.
  - s. ne, the
- 2. Where there is a solid white or yellow line alongside a broken line, you may pass if the broken line is nearest your side of the road (1). If the solid line is on your side, you must not pass (2).
- 3. Where there is only a broken line separating the lanes, vehicles going in both directions may pass if the way ahead is clear.



Make sure there is a time to pass before changing lanes to do so. Allow plenty of time to get back on the right side of the roadway to avoid being dangerously close to oncoming traffic. Never get closer than 100 feet to an oncoming vehicle.

In passing at a safe distance to the left, do not return to the right lane until you are sure that you are safely out of the way of the vehicle in your rear-view mirror, this avoiding "Cutting In".

**NOTE:** The vehicle being passes is required to maintain the same rate of speed unless presented with an emergency situation where he may be required to slow down to prevent an accident.

### **PAVEMENT MARKINGS**

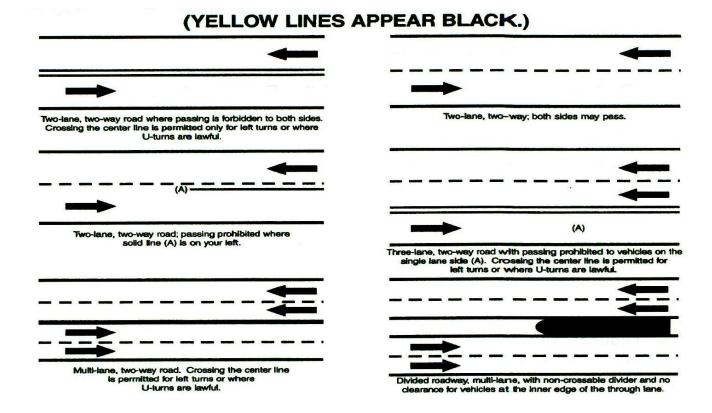
Types of markers used are reflectors and paint and the different colors are:

- White
- Yellow
- Red
- Blue

Pavement markings indicate separation of lanes and direction of traffic:

- Yellow lines are used to divide roads with two-way traffic.
- White lines divide lanes or roadways where the traffic is going in the same direction.

On Guam, small reflective markers are used more than paint to indicate these pavement markings, since paint does not last long.



### PASSING PASSENGER CARRIERS (BUSES)

- 1. No operator of a vehicle which meets or overtakes any passenger carrier that has stopped for the purpose of taking on or discharging passengers shall pass such stopped vehicle on the side on which passengers are entering or leaving the vehicle until such stopped vehicle has started and all passengers who may have alighted have reached the side of the highway; except, that where a safety zone has been established, or at an intersection where traffic is controlled by a peace office or mechanical traffic signal, a vehicle need not be brought to a full stop before passing a stopped passenger carrier, but may proceed past such a vehicle at a speed no greater than ten (10) miles per hour, and shall exercise due caution for the safety of all pedestrians.
- 2. The driver of any vehicle, whenever approaching upon any highway from either direction any school bus which is equipped with signs as herein required and which has stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging any passengers shall at once bring his vehicle to a complete stop and shall not proceed to pass such school bus from either direction until the passengers in the immediate area of the bus have been received into or discharged from the bus and have reached a position of safety from vehicular traffic.

### **MISCELLANEOUS DRIVING RULES**

- a. Backing must always be done carefully. Do not rely upon a mirror to show you where you are going.
- b. You must not drive a vehicle so loaded either with property or persons that you cannot see ahead, behind or to the sides or so loaded that you cannot control your vehicle. Stickers, signs, posters, etc. are not permitted on a vehicle's windshield, side or rear windows with two exceptions:
  - 1. In a seven inch square in the lower corner of the windshield on the side away from the driver.
  - 2. Upon the side windows behind the driver in a position where they will not obstruct his clear view.
- c. No object or material may be placed in or upon a vehicle so that it obstructs or reduces the driver's clear view through the windshield area, hanging from above, or elsewhere except those permitted as listed above.
- d. It is unlawful for anyone to ride on any part of your vehicle that is not intended for the use of passenger, such as the hood or other outside parts of the vehicle. It is suggested that if you must carry passengers in the back of a pick-up truck, they must sit firmly on the deck against the cab. It is unlawful to carry more than five (5) passengers in the bed of a pickup truck.
- e. Always keep alert for pedestrians or bicyclists in your view of the road. You should give them room to try to anticipate their movements. Don't let any cyclist hang onto a vehicle.
- f. Horns should be used only when it's reasonable and necessary for safe operation.
- g. If you smoke, use an ashtray in your vehicle. It is illegal to throw any lighted cigarette, cigar, or any other flaming or flowing substances from your vehicle on any street or highway.
- h. Any person who goes for sightseeing purposes to the scene of a disaster where the aid of police, firemen, ambulance crews, or other rescue and emergency services are required, and by doing so, interferes with the essential services at the scene, is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- i. No person shall throw or deposit upon the highway any glass bottle, glass, nails, tacks, hoops wire, cans or any other substance likely to injure any person, animal, or vehicle. **Littering is illegal**.

### **DRIVING AT NIGHT**

Your speed should always be lowered for night-time driving. You are not as alert after a long day, nor do you see so well. The steady hum of the motor tends to lull you to sleep. But wide awake driving is really needed at night, when your driving view is limited by darkness. Experts agree on the following rules for safer night-time driving.

- Headlights must be used whenever a motor vehicle is being operated on a highway or adjacent shoulder from 1 hour before sunrise, or at any time there isn't sufficient light. It is illegal to drive with only your parking lights on. If you think parking lights are called for, then you must use your headlights. Parking lights are for parking ONLY.
- Keep your headlights properly adjusted so that the lower beams are not aimed upward.
- Keep vour windshield clean.
- When you meet an oncoming vehicle, you must lower your headlight beams (dim your lights) within 500 feet of the approaching motorist.
- Slow down when facing the glare from approaching motorist.
- Avoid looking directly into the lights of the vehicles you are meeting. Instead, watch the edge of the roadway on your right.

- Lower your beams (dim your lights) when following another vehicle within 300 feet.
- Lower your headlights when you are driving on well-lighted streets.
- Use your lower beams when driving in a fog and reduce your speed. Driving with bright lights in fog is like shining a light into a mirror: the reflection of the light blinds you.
- Be sure that you can stop whenever necessary within the distance you can see clearly ahead, and watch continually and carefully for pedestrians and animals along the roadside.

### **CONTROLLING YOUR VEHICLE IN AN EMERGENCY**

It is important to anticipate emergencies by knowing exactly what to do, for there usually isn't much time to consider the situation. Here are a few helpful tips:

- **Tire Blow Out** Don't slam the brakes. Keep a firm grip on the steering wheel, steer straight ahead, and slow own gradually to a stop.
- **Rear Wheel Skid** Don't brake suddenly. Turn your steering wheel in the direction of the skid, and as the vehicle begins to straighten out, bring the front wheels into line.
- •Accelerator Pedal Jams Put your gears in neutral or turn of the ignition.
- **Right Wheels Off Pavement** Don't try to pull sharply back onto the pavement. Steer straight ahead slowing gradually until you can pull safely onto the road.
- **Collision Unavoidable** Turn off your ignition. While braking, attempt to steer away from rigid objects.
- **Vehicle Coming at You** If a vehicle approaches on the wrong side of the road, the driver may be asleep, drowsy, inattentive, ill, drugged, or drunk. Warn him with your horn and pull to the right as far as possible even into a ditch or field if necessary!

### WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF AN ACCIDENT

(Guam Law requires that **ALL** vehicles be insured)

If you are involved in an accident, you are required to:

- a. Stop and properly identify yourself to the other party. Leaving the scene of an accident where property damage has occurred is a MISDEMEANOR. If personal injury has resulted, it is a FELONY to leave the scene.
- b. If the property damage exceeds \$250.00 or an injury has resulted, you should contact the police immediately, the law gives you a 24-hour period in which to report the accident.
- c. You are also required to report the accident within 10 working days from the time the police report has been completed to the Dept. of Revenue and Taxation if the damage exceeds \$250.00 or someone has been injured.

### DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES:

Drinking and driving is responsible for at least half of the traffic deaths on Guam highways. The following laws are strictly enforced by the Guam Police Department:

- a. It is unlawful for any person who, while under the influence of alcoholic beverage or any controlled substance, or under the combined influence of any alcoholic beverage and any controlled substance to operate or be in physical control of a motor vehicle.
- b. It is unlawful for any person, while having eight one hundredths of one percent (0.08%) or more, by weight, of alcohol in his or her blood to operate or be in physical control of a motor vehicle.

- c. If any person is convicted of a first violation driving under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances, that person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections ("DOC") or the Guam Police Department ("GPD") for not less than a mandatory forty-eight (48) hours nor more than one (1) year and a fine of not less than one Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) and not more than five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000). In addition, the judge may impose any additional penalties, including requiring the offenders to pay restitution to persons injured or for property damage.
- d. If any person is convicted of a second violation driving under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances and the offense occurs within five (5) years of a separate conviction that person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by imprisonment in the custody of DOC or GPD for not less than a mandatory seven (7) days nor more than two (2) years and by a fine of not less than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000). The person's privilege to operate a motor vehicle shall be suspended for one (1) year, with no exceptions for occupational driving privileges by the Department of Revenue and Taxation.
- e. If any person is convicted under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances and that offense occurred within five (5) years of two(2) separate convictions of a violation or of 2 separate convictions of a prior offense shall be guilty of a felony of the third degree and shall be punished by imprisonment in the custody of DOC or GPD for not less than a mandatory ninety (90) days and not more than five (5) years and by a fine of not less than Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) and not more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000). The person's privilege to operate a motor vehicle shall be revoked by the Department of Revenue and Taxation for a period of not less than two (2) years.

## Implied Consent and Suspension or Revocation of Driving Privileges and License of the Safe Street Act

- a. Any person who operates a motor vehicle on the public highways or roadways of Guam shall be deemed to have given consent to a blood, urine, or breath test for the purpose of determining the alcohol or controlled substance content of the person's blood or urine.
- b. Refusal to submit to a blood, urine or breath test will result in the following:
- The person must immediately surrender his or her driver's license to the officer;
- The officer will take custody of the license and will forward it to the Department of Revenue and Taxation, Motor Vehicle Division, along with the officer's sworn statement affidavit or written declaration and;
- The driver's license will not be returned and driving privileges restored until the completion of all administrative and court proceedings have been ordered by the Director of Revenue and Taxation or the courts
- c. Any person who drinks any alcoholic beverage or consumes a controlled substance while in a motor vehicle upon a highway shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

The preceding Implied Consent Law procedures are subject to change.

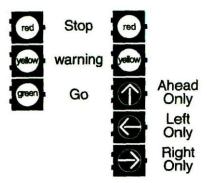
### **Section III**

### **TRAFFIC SIGNAL LIGHTS**

It shall be unlawful for the operator of any vehicle to disobey the directions of any traffic signal, unless otherwise directed by a peace officer.

Whenever traffic at an intersection is alternately directed to stop and go by the use of mechanical light signals, the color lights shall indicate as follows:

**RED** - Traffic facing the signal shall stop before entering the intersection and remain stopped until green is shown, an dno movement or turns shall be lawful while the red color shows, except an operator of a vehicle which is stopped at the entrance of an intersection in obedience to a red light signal may make a right turn but shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and other traffic proceeding as directed by the signal at said intersections, except that the Chief of Police may, by regulation, prohibit such right turn against a red light signal at any intersection, which regulation shall be effective when a sign is erected as such intersections giving notice thereof.



**YELLOW** – Traffic facing the signal shall stop before entering the nearest crosswalk at the intersection, but if such stop cannot be made in safety the vehicle may be driven cautiously through the intersection.

**GREEN** – Traffic facing the signal may proceed straight ahead and make right or left turns except where such turns are not permitted, when so indicated by official signs, and vehicular traffic shall yield the right of way to pedestrians crossing on the crosswalk at the intersection who started across the roadways prior to the green signal for such vehicles..

### **FLASHING SIGNALS:**

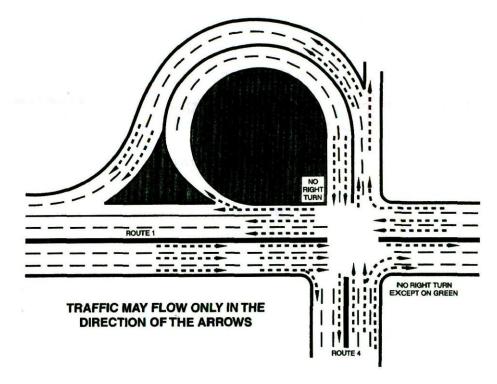
Whenever a red or yellow flashing light is used as a traffic signal it shall require obedience by vehicular traffic as follows:

- (a) Flashing Red (Stop signal). When a red flashing light is used as a traffic signal t an intersection, drivers of vehicles shall stop before entering the nearest crosswalk at an intersection or at a limit line when marked, or if none, then before entering the intersection, and the right to proceed shall be subject to the rules applicable after making a stop at a stop sign.
- (b) Flashing Yellow (caution signal). When a yellow flashing light is used at a traffic signal, drivers of vehicles may proceed through the intersection or past such signal only with caution.

Regardless of the traffic signal, you must always yield the right-of-way to any pedestrians of other vehicles already in the intersection.

### **HAGATNA'S FAMOUS "LOOP"**

The intersection of Route 1 (Marine Corps Drive) and Route 4



### TRAFFIC MAY FLOW ONLY IN THE DIRECTION OF THE ARROWS.

# Section IV ROAD SIGNS

Every traffic sign has a definite shape and color which announces its purpose. Each is placed to help you and to instruct you in the best and safest use of the highway. All signs must be obeyed at all times unless a policeman or other traffic officer directs you to do otherwise.

Some signs are being changed for national and international uniformity, and you will find both types in use on some highways of Guam. New and old signs are indicated below:

### Color is significant.

Red = STOP or prohibition of an action
Yellow = Warning
White and Black = Regulator Signs or
Geographic Indications:
Speed Limits, City Limits, etc.
Orange = Construction or Maintenance Warning

### Shapes have meaning.

Octagon (8 Sides) = STOP: Always Red with
White Letters. This sign is the only 8-sided traffic
sign. It always means "danger" and tells you that
you are approaching a street or highway where
you must bring your vehicle to a complete stop, not
entering the crosswalk zone. If you cannot see in
all directions, you may cautiously proceed further until you
can determine that it's safe to drive ahead or turn.

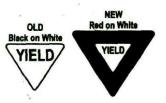
Pennant = No Passing Zone: Yellow with Black Letters. It is located on the left side of the road and points to the beginning of a no-passing solid-line pavement marking. The pennant is used in addition to the black and white DO NOT PASS sign.

**Wedge = Yield**. The yield sign requires you to give the right of way to other vehicles which have entered the intersection or are approaching on the roadway so close as to be hazardous

**Diamond = Warning**: Yellow with Black Letters. These describe road conditions, hazards ahead or give a notice of changes in the highway which you must be alert for in order to proceed safely.







### **CROSSROAD SIGNS**







Crossroad Ahead on Right



Crossroad Ahead on Left



Road Ends You Must Turn Left or Right



"Y" Intersection
Ahead

### TURN, CURVE AND WINDING ROAD SIGNS



These signs with black symbols on a yellow background are used to warn motorists of twist and turns in the roadways ahead. You may see a small rectangular sign just below the diamond which indicates the highest safe speed under the best road conditions that you can use in successfully negotiating the hazards.

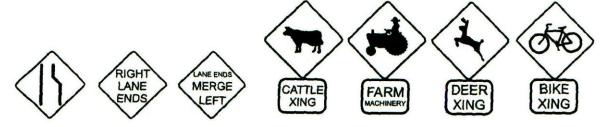


This sign tells you that a bridge ahead is too narrow to be crossed safely at average speed; you must slow down and drive cautiously across.

### These Signs have been CHANGED



# ADDITIONAL WARNING SIGNS (Black Symbols on a Yellow Background)



### **RECTANGLE = TRAFFIC REGULATIONS**: White with Black Letters.

The Speed Limit sign remains unchanged, but some of the new signs have a red circle with a diagonal line across them which mean prohibition ("NO").

**OLD NEW OLD NEW** NO NO RIGHT TRUCKS TURN NO KEEP LEFT TURN RIGHT **BICYCLES** NO DO NO DO NOT **ENTER** 

# COMMON CONSTRUCTION SIGNS Black Lettering on an Orange Background



**GUIDE SIGNS = Identification of Places:** Black and white or Green and white. These signs often have reflectorized letters and figures and tell the motorist names and places, mileage distances, highway identification numbers, city limits, junctions, etc.

### SLOW MOVING VEHICLE (SMV) EMBLEM

You may see one of the emblems on slow-moving vehicles such as farm tractors, horse drawn vehicles, machinery, or construction equipment. During daylight, the bright fluorescent solid triangle in the center of the SMV emblem is highly visible and at night glows brightly in the path of approaching headlights. **Watch out** for this sign and **Slow** down before passing this vehicle.



Slow-moving Vehicle Emblem Kit



Orange Fluorescent Center



Red Reflective Borders

REFLECTIVE DELINEATORS

**OBJECT MARKERS** 

00

8 8

8







Reflective delineators outline the edge of the roadway. Single delineators designate roadways and ramps while double delineators are for change of speed lanes used for entering and leaving freeways.

Object markers of various shapes outline hazardous obstructions along the roadside such as traffic islands, bridge end posts and piers.

# **Section V BICYCLES AND MOPEDS**

Mopeds are required to be registered and licensed under Guam law. You must be at least 15 years old to legally operate a moped on a public highway or road. Any driver under eighteen (18) years of age and any passenger under eighteen (18) years of age shall wear a safety helmet, when riding on a motorcycle, including a bicycle with motor (moped, scooter).

### **RULES OF THE ROAD:**

When you are riding a bicycle or bicycle equipped with a motor (moped, scooter) on a public roadway, you are subject to the same rules and regulations as drivers of a motor vehicle. No person shall ride a bicycle or bicycle equipped with a motor (moped, scooter) on any sidewalk. You must obey all traffic signs and signals, yield the right-of-way to pedestrians, and signal your intent to turn.

### **Safe Driving Tips:**

- Riders of a bicycle or a bicycle equipped with a motor (moped, scooter) are reminded to ride single WITH the traffic at all times.
- Be sure to watch for car doors which may suddenly open and block your path.
- It's safest for riders of a bicycle to get off and walk across busy intersections and bridges.
- Avoid chuckholes and "jumping" curbs. You may lose control and result in a major injury or death.

Many of the islands drains are covered with grates with its bars widely set and laying parallel to the traffic. Watch out for these as they are a terrible hazard to bicycle riders.

# Section VI REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION OF VEHICLES

### 1. General Requirements

Any motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer, pole or pipe dolly, and any dolly used to support part of the weight of a semi-trailer is required to be registered when driven or moved upon the highways of Guam. This applies to motorcycles and bicycles equipped with a motor (moped, scooters).

### 2. Mandatory Automobile Insurance

Guam law requires mandatory automobile insurance in order to guarantee adequate protection for victims of vehicle accidents who are injured in Guam or who are injured while riding in a motor vehicle which are operated on Guam. All motor vehicles which are operated in Guam must be insured pursuant to the following limits: \$20,000 Property Damage Liability and \$25,000 and \$50,000 Third Party Bodily Injury Liability.

### 3. License Plates and Validation Tag

Two license plates will be issued for all vehicles required to be registered in Guam, except for trailers and motorcycles which will be one (1) plate and a validation tag to be placed on the rear plate.

Every license plate issued shall at all times be securely fastened to the vehicle for which it is issued so as to prevent the plate from swinging, and at a minimum distance of twelve (12) inches from the ground in a position to be clearly visible. Every license plate shall be maintained free from foreign materials and in a condition to be clearly legible.

### 4. Renewal of Registration

Your vehicle registration is required to be renewed annually on the month displayed on the sticker located on the top left hand corner of your license plate. Your vehicle registration may be renewed on-line, please visit www.myguamtax.com for more information.

### 5. Safety Inspection

Guam law requires that every motor vehicle to be registered on Guam go through a safety inspection, upon an original application for registration, annually or following a collision or accident in which such vehicle is involved. The fee for a safety inspection is \$15.00.