

Safety Tips

FUNERAL PROCESSIONS

Have you ever lost a loved one? It is a devastating, exhausting experience to go through - the viewing, memorial services and then the procession to the cemetery. Sometimes the funeral procession from the church to the cemetery can be dangerous, especially when inconsiderate drivers cut in and out of the procession or just drive through the procession because they are in a hurry to get somewhere. Actions like this are not only a violation of the law, but disrespectful and could cause accidents. For the drivers who are in a hurry, or think it is fun to do this, please read on.

Indiana traffic law states:

9-21-13-1: Vehicles with lights on have right-of-way, with exceptions

A vehicle with lighted headlights in a funeral procession has the right-of-way at an intersection and may proceed through the intersection if the procession is headed by a lead or escort vehicle displaying alternate flashing red and blue lights, except if either of the following conditions exist:

1. *When the right-of-way is required by an authorized emergency vehicle giving an audible signal.*
2. *When the vehicles in procession are directed otherwise by a police officer.*

9-21-13-2: Driving between vehicles of funeral processions Prohibited!

9-21-13-3: Misrepresentation as funeral procession prohibited.

A person who drives a vehicle that is not a part of the funeral procession may not form a procession and have headlights lighted for purposes of securing the right-of-way granted for funeral processions.

9-21-13-5: Vehicles in procession shall have pennants, flags or stickers

A vehicle that is part of a funeral procession shall use:

1. *Funeral pennants or flags*
2. *Window stickers*

to identify the vehicle as a part of the procession.

9-21-13-6: Passing funeral procession permitted when safe

a person who drives a vehicle may pass a funeral procession on the procession's left side on a multiple lane highway if passing can be done safely.

Remember to be considerate and respectful when you have to wait on a funeral procession. Getting upset and trying to cut through a procession will only get you ticketed.



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