

To: All Drivers of State-Owned Vehicles  
From: Stephen McGirr, Director  
DAS/Fleet Operations  
Date: January 1, 2019  
Subject: Connecticut General Statutes – Regarding the use of Seat Belts while operating a Motor vehicle.

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*State Employees operating State Vehicles are required to be compliant with Section 14-100a of the Connecticut General Statutes.*

*Sections of C.G.S. §14-100a that are particularly relevant include:*

**Sec. 14-100a. Seat safety belts. Child restraint systems. Wheelchair transportation devices.** (a) No new passenger motor vehicle may be sold or registered in this state unless equipped with at least two sets of seat safety belts for the front and rear seats of the motor vehicle, which belts comply with the requirements of subsection (b) of this section. The anchorage unit at the attachment point shall be of such construction, design and strength as to support a loop load strength of not less than four thousand pounds for each belt.

(c) (1) **The operator of and any front seat passenger in any motor vehicle or firefighting apparatus originally equipped with seat safety belts complying with the provisions of 49 CFR 571.209, as amended from time to time, shall wear such seat safety belt while the vehicle is being operated on any highway, except as follows:**

(C) If the operator of such vehicle is under eighteen years of age, such operator and each passenger in such vehicle shall wear such seat safety belt while the vehicle is being operated on any highway.

(2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply to (A) any person whose physical disability or impairment would prevent restraint in such safety belt, **provided such person obtains a written statement from a licensed physician or a licensed advanced practice registered nurse containing reasons for such person's inability to wear such safety belt and including information concerning the nature and extent of such condition. Such person shall carry the statement on his or her person or in the motor vehicle at all times when it is being operated,** or (B) an authorized emergency vehicle, other than firefighting apparatus, responding to an emergency call or a motor vehicle

operated by a rural letter carrier of the United States postal service while performing his or her official duties or by a person engaged in the delivery of newspapers.

(3) Failure to wear a seat safety belt shall not be considered as contributory negligence nor shall such failure be admissible evidence in any civil action.

(4) Any operator of a motor vehicle, who is eighteen years of age or older, and any passenger in such motor vehicle, who violates any provision of this subsection shall have committed an infraction and shall be fined fifty dollars. Any operator of a motor vehicle who is under eighteen years of age and any passenger in such motor vehicle who violates any provision of this subsection shall have committed an infraction and shall be fined seventy-five dollars. Points may not be assessed against the operator's license of any person convicted of such violation.

(3) Violation of any provision of this subsection is an infraction.

**Offense: \$92.00 Infraction**

**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.**