



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE



Talkin' Road Safety

SPECIAL EDITION

Issue No. 3
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Introduction of Emergency Service Speed Zones



Reviewed legislation to commence on 1 September 2014

Section 83 of the Road Traffic Act, 1961 (RTA) has been amended and will commence on 1 September 2014. The legislation regarding this amendment is as follows:-

83—Speed in emergency service speed zone

- (1) A person must not, while driving through an emergency service speed zone, drive at a speed greater than—
- (a) 25 kilometres per hour; or
 - (b) if a lesser speed is required in the circumstances to avoid endangering any person—that lesser speed.

Note -The penalty for a contravention against this section is set out in section 164A. (maximum fine of \$2500).

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the person is driving on a road that is divided by a median strip and the emergency service speed zone is on the other side of the road beyond the median strip.
- (3) In this section—

emergency service speed zone means an area of road—

- (a) in the immediate vicinity of an emergency vehicle that has stopped on the road and is displaying a flashing blue or red light (whether or not it is also displaying other lights); or
- (b) between 2 sets of flashing blue or red lights that have been placed by an emergency worker at either end of a length of road on which an emergency vehicle has stopped;

emergency vehicle means a vehicle used by an emergency worker;

emergency worker means a police officer or a person who is an emergency worker as defined by the regulations for the purposes of this section.

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Introduction to Emergency Service Speed Zones



Protection for our emergency workers

The South Australian community is blessed with dedicated emergency workers who are paid staff and volunteers in our police service; ambulance service; fire service (both MFS and CFS); and State Emergency Service. Drivers need to be aware that once an emergency service vehicle is parked with its blue or red flashing light operating; it signifies that there is an emergency and traffic must slow to 25 kph or a slower speed if the situation warrants it. The legislation is giving emergency service workers a sense of safety and will assist them in resolving the incident.

Road users should note that if you exceed this speed limit you do commit an offence and can be issued with an infringement notice. Examples of the fines which may be issued for exceeding this speed limit are as follows:-

Offence	Exceed by	Fine	Victims	Total	Demerits
Exceed 25 kph in emergency service speed zone	1-9kph	\$159	\$60	\$219	2
Exceed 25 kph in emergency service speed zone	10-19kph	\$349	\$60	\$409	3
Exceed 25 kph in emergency service speed zone	20-29kph	\$709	\$60	\$769	5
Exceed 25 kph in emergency service speed zone	30-44kph	\$846	\$60	\$906	7
Exceed 25 kph in emergency service speed zone	45kph or more	\$952	\$60	\$1012	9

Note: - fines quoted are at 1/9/14 and are quoted as an indication of penalty at that time. You should check these amounts with SAPOL if you require current information.

REMEMBER;- “When you see flashing red or blue means to slow to 25 kph too!”

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