

Rules of the Road & Equipment Violations
Self-Study Scenarios

Problem 1

It is after dark. You see a violator approach a stop sign. The violator slows to about 5 MPH, and then continues through the intersection without stopping. Approaching the vehicle, you note that the license plate light is not working.

Problem 2

You are behind a violator driving on a residential two-lane roadway. The violator then makes a left turn without using a turn signal.

Problem 3

You are behind a violator traveling down a multi-lane roadway with two lanes in each direction, in the most center lane. You pace the violator is exceeding the speed limit by 10 MPH. There are other vehicles traveling on this roadway. The violator changes lanes from center to outside lane without interfering with any other traffic. She does not use a signal while changing lanes.

Problem 4

You observe the violator eastbound on two-way street make a sweeping right turn southbound onto multi-lane roadway with two lanes in each direction, entering directly into the center-most lane.

Problem 5

You are behind the violator who is traveling down a multi-lane road with two lanes in each direction with a double yellow centerline. The left wheels of the violator vehicle momentarily cross over the center-line, then abruptly swerves back into the proper lane. There are three occupants of the violator vehicle. There is no odor or other sign of alcohol involvement. The occupants are cooperative.

Problem 6

It is early morning before daylight. You pace the violator in a 1990's vintage pickup at 11 miles over the speed limit. The right headlight is out. The driver is not wearing his safety belt. There is one adult passenger. You notice the passenger not wearing his safety belt when you approach the vehicle.

Problem 7

It is a stormy day, snowing hard and visibility is very poor. The roads are icy. You are behind the violator who is traveling at the posted speed limit. The driver approaches an intersection as the light turns yellow. The driver attempts to stop but cannot, slides partially into the intersection, coming to stop with ¼ of the vehicle over the stop-line.

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Problem 8

You observe fire engine with emergency lights and siren traveling down a roadway. The violator is traveling at the posted speed limit in the same direction and is 100 yards ahead of the apparatus. The engine approaches the violator vehicle, switches to the oncoming lane and passes the violator.

Problem 9

Traffic is heavy. You observe the violator approaching a congested intersection controlled by traffic signals. The signal is green for the violator vehicle, following closely behind the traffic ahead. The car ahead comes to a stop on the far side of the intersection. Violator stops in the intersection directly behind the vehicle ahead. The light switches to amber, then red. The violator vehicle is still stopped in the intersection, unable to move because of the traffic ahead, and blocking cross-traffic.

Problem 10

You observe the violator traveling down multi-lane roadway with two lanes in each direction, in the most center lane, at approximately the posted speed limit of 35 MPH. Ahead of the violator is another car, also traveling at about 35 MPH. The violator vehicle is about 5 feet from the bumper of the vehicle ahead. They travel in this position for more than a block.

Problem 11

Violator is traveling down the right lane of a multi-lane roadway with two lanes in each direction. The left lane is congested with traffic. Violator has passed a sign which reads "right turn only" for his lane. He has passed a white painted arrow on the pavement in the lane he is traveling in, which indicates to turn right. As he approaches the intersection, the violator continues straight ahead, switching to the through lane without signaling.

Problem 12

You observe two vehicles stopped side by side at a red light. The engines are revving. As the light changes to green, both vehicles accelerate hard and lose traction. Both vehicles obviously exceed the 25 MPH speed limit for two blocks. You are able to stop one of the vehicles. You notice the exhaust is abnormally loud. There is no muffler on the exhaust system. The driver is cooperative. He comments that he does not know the driver of the other vehicle.

Problem 13

The second vehicle involved in problem 13 makes a left turn and drives away. You have radioed the license number and description to dispatch. A uniformed officer directing traffic 2 blocks away directs this vehicle to pull over. This violator ignores the officer and continues on until another police car gets behind him and pulls him over.

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Problem 14

You respond to a one-car non-injury accident and find a vehicle in a ditch. The driver advises she was drinking a latte and her phone rang. She reached with her 'free' hand to retrieve the phone from her purse and suddenly found herself in the ditch.

Problem 15

A school bus is stopped along the right lane multi-lane roadway with two lanes in each direction. Its emergency flashing red lights are engaged, there is a mechanical stop sign poking out from the left side of the bus and children are exiting the bus. No one is crossing in front of the bus. A motorcycle is in the most center lane traveling the same direction that the bus is headed. The motorcyclist waves at passengers on the bus, passes by the bus then pulls to the curb 2 car-lengths in front of the bus.

Problem 16

You observe the violator vehicle as it drives down the roadway. The violator swerves after narrowly missing parked vehicles. There are two teenagers inside the pickup. The driver is leaning over to the right and hugging the passenger next to him.

Problem 17

You observe two cars approaching a four-way stop, residential intersection. Two vehicles come to a stop at the same time. The vehicle on the right starts to proceed through the stop when the vehicle on the left proceeds in front of the first vehicle. This vehicle continues through the intersection, requiring the first vehicle to stop to allow them to continue. There are two women in the vehicle. The passenger is holding an infant on her lap. She says the baby was born recently, and she has not had a chance to obtain a car seat.

Problem 18

You observe a vehicle roll through a stop sign and make a right turn. When the violator sees your car, he accelerates hard. The violator runs another stop sign, this time at high speed. The violator makes an abrupt left turn without signaling, sliding sideways. You lose sight of this vehicle, but another officer gets behind it and it pulls to the curb without further incident.

Problem 19 You approach a vehicle at a stop sign. You observe that the driver is wearing ear-buds connected to an I-Pod. You stop the vehicle and as you approach, you notice the cords showing on the left rear tire of the violator vehicle. The driver tells you she was not aware the tire was worn out.

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Problem 20

You are in a line of vehicles stopped for a down railroad crossing arm. There is no moving train in sight. The arm has been down for 5 minutes. After five minutes, the first vehicle in line slowly drives around the end of the crossing arm and crosses the tracks. The driver explains he has been sitting there five minutes, and has not observed any trains. He believes the signal is faulty. After stopping at the edge of the tracks, he checked both ways then proceeded around the arm.

Problem 21

You observe a vehicle traveling the wrong way down a one-way street. You get behind this vehicle with your emergency lights and siren engaged. The violator maintains his speed at about 45 MPH and continues to the next block. He then turns left without using a turn signal, and continues on at a steady 45 mph in a 25 zone. After 3 blocks, the vehicle slows as it approaches a stop sign, but then fails to stop and makes a right turn at the intersection. The violator continues accelerating to about 50 MPH in a 40 zone. At the next intersection, he cuts another car off. You remain behind him, in uniform, with emergency lights and siren on, but he fails to pull over until another officer blocks him in.

Problem 22

You observe a vehicle traveling down a city street with the right rear door partially open. There is right-rear fender and bumper damage. There is duct tape holding the bumper in place. The front windshield is shattered. The driver says he was in an accident with an uninsured motorist, and cannot afford to have his vehicle repaired. He only uses the vehicle to go to and from work, and will get it fixed as soon as possible.

Problem 23

You observe a newer large motorcycle driving down the street. It is exceptionally loud and noisy. The original mufflers have obviously been removed and replaced by custom chrome mufflers. The driver tells you he had the custom mufflers added when he bought the motorcycle.