

OFFICE OF OPERATIONS

OPERATIONS NOTICE NO. 9

July 16, 2008

SUBJECT: ENFORCEMENT OF CALIFORNIA VEHICLE CODES 21453(a) AND 21453(b)


EFFECTIVE: IMMEDIATELY

A recent review of existing Department practice revealed that, in many instances, field officers were utilizing California Vehicle Code (CVC) Section 21453(b) when drivers failed to stop for a red signal light prior to negotiating a right turn. The correct section drivers should be cited for is 21453(a) CVC.

- * Section 21453(a) CVC: A driver facing a steady red signal shall stop before entering the intersection, and shall remain stopped until an indication to proceed is shown, except as provided in subdivision (b).
- * Section 21453(b) CVC: Except when a sign is in place prohibiting a turn, a driver, after stopping as required by subdivision (a), facing a steady red signal, may turn right, or turn left from a one-way street onto a one-way street. A driver making that turn shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within the crosswalk and to approaching vehicles which may constitute an immediate hazard.

Note: It is subdivision (a) that requires a driver to "stop" at a red signal light and to "remain stopped until an indication to proceed is shown." Subdivision (b) is an exception to subdivision (a)'s requirement to "remain stopped," which allows a driver to make a right turn on a red signal light under certain circumstances "after stopping as required by subdivision (a)."

Questions regarding this Order may be directed to the Traffic Coordination Section, Emergency Operations Division, at (213) 847-1630.


EARL C. PAYSINGER, Assistant Chief
Director, Office of Operations

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