

N.C.P.I.-Motor Vehicle 225.10
LOCATION OF VIDEO MONITORS AND SCREENS IN MOTOR VEHICLES.
MOTOR VEHICLE VOLUME
JUNE 2010
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-136.1

225.10 LOCATION OF VIDEO MONITORS AND SCREENS IN MOTOR VEHICLES.

The motor vehicle law provides that no person shall drive any motor vehicle

[upon a public street or highway or public vehicular area while viewing any television, computer or video player]¹

[equipped with a television viewer, screen or other means of visually receiving a television broadcast]²

which is located at any point forward of the back of the driver's seat, [and]³ [or]⁴ which is visible to the driver while operating the motor vehicle.⁵

[However, this law does not apply to

[the operation of a motor vehicle which is lawfully parked or stopped.⁶]

[law enforcement or emergency personnel while in the performance of their official duties.⁷]

A violation of this law is negligence within itself.

1. This version applies to acts committed on or after the October 1, 2009, effective date of 2009 N.C. Sess. Laws 376 which amended N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-136.1.

2. This version applies to acts committed prior to the October 1, 2009, effective date of 2009 N.C. Sess. Laws 376 which amended N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-136.1.

3. See *supra* note 1.

4. See *supra* note 2.

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5. The 2009 amendment to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-136.1, applicable to acts committed on or after October 1, 2009, specifies that the statute

does not apply to the use of global positioning systems; turn-by-turn navigation displays or similar navigation devices; factory-installed or aftermarket global positioning systems or wireless communications devices used to transmit or receive data as part of a digital dispatch system; equipment that displays audio system information, functions, or controls, or weather, traffic, and safety information; vehicle safety or equipment information; or image displays that enhance the driver's view in any direction, inside or outside of the vehicle.

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-136.1 (2009).

Further, "the provisions of this section shall not apply to law enforcement or emergency personnel while in the performance of their official duties, or to the operator of a vehicle that is lawfully parked or stopped." *Id.*

6. *See supra* note 5. Use this instruction in the event of a contention that the vehicle is lawfully parked or stopped.

7. *See supra* note 5.