

N.C.P.I.-Motor Vehicle 215.16  
REQUIRED LIGHTING EQUIPMENT-MOTORCYCLES-DAYTIME.  
MOTOR VEHICLE VOLUME  
OCTOBER 1988  
N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 20-129 and 20-131  
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## 215.16 REQUIRED LIGHTING EQUIPMENT - MOTORCYCLES - DAYTIME.

The motor vehicle law provides that every motorcycle shall be equipped with lighted [headlights] [taillights] at all times while the motorcycle is in operation upon a [highway] [public vehicular area].<sup>1</sup>

Operating a motorcycle on a [highway] [public vehicular area] without such light(s) is negligence within itself.

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1. The 1973 General Assembly amended N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-129, effective October 1, 1973, to require motorcycle headlights and taillights to be lighted at all times the motorcycle is in operation on a highway or public vehicular area. The statute also uses "lamp," not "light" -a usage which purists may wish to retain. See *Bigelow v. Johnson*, 303 N.C. 126, 277 S.E.2d 347 (1981), in which a flashlight was held not to comply with the requirements of the statute.