

# New Traffic Laws 2007

## Nevada Laws You Should Know

Here are some important new traffic laws passed by the 2007 Nevada Legislature. A short description of each is followed by its legislative bill number and applicable Nevada Revised Statute or NRS Chapter. All are effective October 1, 2007, unless otherwise noted.

### Teen Driving

Drivers under 18 may not carry passengers under 18, except for immediate family members, for the first six months after receiving a full license. This is an increase from three months.

(SB 293 - NRS 483.2523)

Parents who willfully and knowingly allow an unlicensed minor to drive a vehicle are now equally liable for all fines, fees and restitution ordered in connection with an offense.

(SB 293 - NRS Chapter 62E)

### Social Hosting

A person who serves, sells or otherwise furnishes alcohol to a minor, or controlled substances to a person of any age, is now liable in a civil action for any damages that result from the consumption. Civil suits may seek punitive damages as well.

(SB 7 - NRS Chapter 41)



### Street Racing

Drivers in an "unauthorized speed contest" and those who organize such contests face minimum penalties of a \$250 fine, 50 hours of community service, a six-month driver's license suspension, possible vehicle impoundment and possible jail time. Penalties for repeat offenses are much higher and include mandatory vehicle impoundment. (SB 43 - NRS 484.377)

### School Police

School police may now issue traffic citations on the public streets adjacent to school property. The superintendent of the local school district must first approve the practice.

(Effective 7/1/07 - SB 354 and SB 534 - NRS 391.275)

### Pets

It is now specifically illegal to leave a dog or cat unattended in a vehicle during periods of extreme heat or cold. Law enforcement and firefighters may use reasonable force to rescue the animal.

(SB 43 - NRS 484.377)



## More New Laws



### Driving Under the Influence

DUI suspects may not be released from jail until they have reached .04 BAC or a minimum of 12 hours if controlled substances are involved.

(AB 8 - NRS 178.484)

Commercial drivers now face criminal DUI charges if they have a .04 BAC. (10/1/07 - AB 584 - NRS Chapter 484)

Refusing to stop a vehicle or eluding a peace officer are now felony offenses if the suspect is also convicted of DUI.

(SB 394 - NRS 484.348)

### Multiple Citations

A person who has been convicted of two or more moving traffic violations in unrelated incidents within a 12-month period and is subsequently arrested or issued a citation within that 12-month period shall appear in court personally. (SB 394 - NRS 171.17785)

### Property Damage Accidents

Drivers involved in accidents that involve only property damage must move their vehicles out of traffic if it is safe and practicable to do so.

(AB 71 - NRS 484.221)

### Trucks

Through trucks are prohibited from using the Red Rock Canyon scenic loop near Las Vegas. Specifically, any truck 26,000 pounds or heavier or any vehicle with an apportioned registration is prohibited on State Route 159, miles 0-14, unless its point of origin or destination is within that area.

(SB 128 - NRS Chapter 484)

The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) may designate through lanes for trucks on freeways. These will be advisory only with no actual restrictions on which lanes trucks must use. (AB 118 - NRS 484.221)

Local governments in Clark County will no longer issue oversize/overweight permits. These will be issued by NDOT only. (SB 450 - NRS 484.471)

Concrete pumpers, cranes and drill rigs with highway-rated tires must be registered and display license plates. Registration is also required on all trailers that transport this sort of equipment.

(Effective 7/1/07 - AB 39 - NRS 482, 484 & 366)

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