

Publisher's Note

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MANUAL OF MOTOR VEHICLE LAW

Segal

Release No. 10, November 2025

This resource provides detailed annotations for the Ontario *Highway Traffic Act* as well as related provincial and federal statutes, and features a convenient words and phrases section of related judicially defined terms.

What's New in this Update:

This release adds new or updated case annotations to Chapter 1 (Introductory), Chapter 7 (Part IV—Licences Driver, Driving Instructor), Chapter 12 (Part IX—Rate of Speed), Chapter 29 (Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act), Chapter 31 (Motorized Snow Vehicles Act), Chapter 34 (Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act), Chapter 36 (Off-Road Vehicles Act), Chapter 39 (Motor Vehicle Dealers Act, 2002) and Appendix B (Defences to Actionable Negligence).

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Highlights

Updates to the commentary introduces discussion of recent case law, including the following:

- **Drivers' Licences—Offences**—Months after pleading guilty to dangerous driving, failing to stop for police and other charges, the accused learned that, pursuant to s. 41(1) of the *Highway Traffic Act*, as a repeat dangerous driving offender, he had become subject to a lifetime driving suspension. The accused successfully sought an extension of time in order to appeal his conviction and sentence for dangerous driving—the motions judge was satisfied that the accused had been unaware of the consequence under the provincial statute, and granted the extension: *R. v. Cole*, 2025 ONCA 535, 2025 CarswellOnt 11615 (Ont. C.A.).
- **Rate of Speed—Nature of Offence**—The accused was driving a tractor-trailer at 100 kph when he realized the vehicles ahead of him had stopped. He slowed to 77 kph before swerving, and the resulting collision resulted in two deaths and two other persons injured. The accused pleaded guilty to careless driving causing death, and the parties suggested the imposition of a \$4,000 fine. The court, however, imposed a sentence of 50 days, followed by 18 months' probation and a three-year driving suspension: *R. v. Buttar*, 2024 ONCJ 727, 2024 CarswellOnt 21918 (Ont. C.J.).