



## Graham Fire & Rescue

### LIGHTS AND SIRENS

When fire apparatus respond to emergencies, they typically respond with lights and sirens, known as a **"Priority Response"**. The purpose for this is to request right-of-way to get to the emergency scene as quickly and safely as possible.

Sometimes lights and sirens are not used. On a non-emergency or **"Routine Response"** such as to burn complaints, there is no emergency present and the timeliness of the response is not critical.

Personnel are trained to use discretion when determining the appropriate response mode, always keeping in mind that the primary goal of the district is to the safety of citizens and department personnel.



Often apparatus are cancelled en-route by an officer if it is determined that additional units are not needed. Likewise you may see an apparatus in priority response suddenly turn their lights and sirens off and proceed back to the station or some other errand.

**Pull over to the right side of the road and stop** when emergency vehicles approach with lights and sirens. Emergency vehicles will always pass on the left, even if it means going against traffic. It is imperative that traffic traveling in both directions pull over to the right.

Statistics reveal that vehicle accidents are the second leading cause of emergency responder deaths, heart attacks remain number one.