

CHAPTER 7
AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLE PERMITS
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CHAPTER 7

AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLE PERMITS

1. INSPECTION AND PERMITTING. Authorized Emergency Vehicle (AEV) permits can only be issued to privately owned vehicles used in responding to emergency calls for fire or law enforcement or for the immediate preservation of life, property, or the apprehension of violators and to publicly owned and operated hazardous materials response team vehicles. These restrictions serve to enhance the credibility of legitimately owned and operated AEVs in the public's mind and lend importance to the need to yield to such vehicles under Code 3 operation. The related inspection of AEVs serves to ensure that appropriate Code 3 equipment is being used and provides uniform application of standards to enhance public recognition of these devices.

2. ELIGIBILITY. Authorized Emergency Vehicle permits will be issued only for those vehicles listed and under the conditions specified in California Vehicle Code (CVC) Section 2416.

3. SCREENING. A request for an AEV permit should be screened by the appropriate Regulated Special Purpose Vehicle Officer (RSPVO) or the Regulated Special Purpose Vehicle (RSPV) Program Coordinator to determine whether the applicant meets qualifying criteria. If qualified, the application will be sent to the permittee by the RSPV Program Coordinator in Research and Planning Section (RPS).

4. APPLICATION.
 - a. Forms. The CHP 310, Authorized Emergency Vehicle Permit Application and Inspection Report, will be provided to an eligible applicant together with instructions (CHP 310A, How to Obtain An Authorized Emergency Vehicle Permit). (These forms may be obtained by contacting the RSPV Program Coordinator in RPS.) The application for an initial permit is to be completed by the applicant and submitted to the appropriate local RSPVO for inspection together with the following documents:
 - (1) An official brake adjustment certificate issued by an Authorized Brake Adjustment Station licensed by the Department of Consumer Affairs, Bureau of Automotive Repair for the vehicle, not more than 45 days prior to the inspection date. Submission of the brake certificate may be waived by the California Highway Patrol when no official brake adjusting station is located within 30 road miles of the applicant's location, and the applicant certifies the

brake system has been inspected and road tested by a competent mechanic and is in compliance with CVC brake requirements.

(2) Two color photographs at least 3 inches by 4 inches are required, one showing a view of the front and left side of the vehicle and the other showing the rear and right side. The license plate number must be legible.

(3) Members of police or sheriff departments applying for an AEV permit pursuant to Section 2416(a)(1) CVC shall include a CHP 310C, Law Enforcement Applicant Status Verification and Liability form (this form may be obtained by contacting the RSPV Program Coordinator in RPS), authorizing the use of a private vehicle as an AEV.

(4) A chief, assistant chief, or other uniformed person of a fire department applying for an AEV permit pursuant to Section 2416(a)(4) CVC shall include a letter of authorization and verification from the fire department or district authorizing the use of the vehicle as an AEV.

(5) A fire company organized pursuant to Part 4 of the Health and Safety Code and applying for an AEV permit pursuant to Section 2416(a)(7) CVC shall include a copy of their Certificate of Organization that has been recorded with the County Recorder within one year of the date of application. This certificate may be waived if the County Recorder no longer requires this process.

(6) Ambulance support vehicle permits are issued pursuant to Section 2416(9) CVC. The permit is valid upon compliance with the wording in this section and applicable local regulations.

(7) A hazardous materials response team applying for an AEV permit pursuant to Section 2416(a)(10) CVC shall include a copy of the ordinance authorizing operation of response vehicles.

5. INITIAL APPLICATION. Prior to the Area commander's approval of the initial application, the appropriate RSPVO shall review the application and inspect the vehicle to ensure that the applicant and vehicle meet the criteria established in Section 2416 CVC.

a. Application. The application is self-explanatory and should be reviewed to ensure that sufficient information is provided to identify the applicant and vehicle and that both are eligible for the permit. The name of the qualifying agency or organization must be entered.

b. Inadmissible Applications. Applications which cannot be endorsed because of an applicant's temporary failure to meet the criteria established in Section 2416 CVC shall be held at the Area office pending correction of the noted defects.

c. Affidavit of Qualification. The applicant's certification serves as an affidavit of qualification and must be signed by the person responsible for operation of the vehicle.

d. Denial. If issuance of the permit appears inadvisable, the basis for denial shall be provided to RPS together with the application pursuant to Title 13, California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 1124 (see Chapter 8, Denial and Administrative Disciplinary Action, of this manual).

e. Vehicle Inspection. Each vehicle for which an initial permit is requested shall be inspected by an RSPVO. The vehicle identification and proper registration shall be verified on the CHP 310.

(1) The inspection report is designed to be used as a checklist to ensure that essential items are inspected and that the vehicle is properly equipped and maintained as required. The items listed shall be individually checked off when inspected for compliance. A single line through several items is not an appropriate indication of compliance.

(2) An attached Official Brake Adjustment Certificate satisfies compliance with the brake system inspection element.

(3) Each inspection report should be annotated to indicate if the vehicle is in compliance only after correction of discovered deficiencies.

(4) The initial inspection report must indicate that the status of the applicant and/or vehicle usage has been verified as represented on the application. The initial inspection report is to be approved by the Area commander and signed by the RSPVO, but only when both the applicant and the vehicle meet all of the requirements.

f. Disposition. The original application/inspection report is forwarded to RPS. A copy is to be retained for the Area office file and one provided to the applicant.

6. RENEWAL.

a. Renewal Notice. A renewal notice, application, and instructions will be mailed to the permittee no less than 60 days prior to permit expiration.

- b. Renewal Inspection. Applications for permit renewals do not require Area endorsement and shall be mailed directly to RPS. The permittee shall inspect and certify the inspection report as to the vehicle's compliance with requirements. An Official Brake Adjustment Certificate is required unless specifically exempted.
- c. Inspection Checklist. When performing the required vehicle inspection, applicants should refer to the CHP 310B, Authorized Emergency Vehicle Inspection Checklist for Self-Certification of Vehicle Compliance. (This form may be obtained by contacting the RSPV Program Coordinator in RPS.) A copy of the CHP 310B is provided with each renewal application.
- d. Expiration Notice. In the event the Department fails to receive a timely permit renewal application, a notice of expiration will be sent to the permittee and affected Area office RSPVO. An initial inspection/application will then be required to reinstate that vehicle as an AEV.

7. ISSUANCE.

- a. Special Vehicle Identification Certificate/Permit. A CHP 301, Special Vehicle Identification Certificate/Permit, is the credential issued by the Department which allows a privately owned or operated vehicle to function as an AEV.
- b. Nontransferable. Each permit is issued to a particular person or entity for a specific vehicle, is numbered by the Department, and is not transferable.
- c. Certificate/Permit Term. The permits are dated to expire not more than two years after the date the initial application is approved or the renewal is granted. However, the term may be shortened to facilitate scheduling of vehicle inspections when the permittee holds more than one AEV permit or for the convenience of the Department.
- d. Surrender. The permit remains the property of the Department and is to be surrendered under the conditions specified in Title 13 CCR Section 1121(g) and (i).
- e. Duplicate. A duplicate permit may be issued upon request when the original permit has been lost, destroyed, mutilated, or has become illegible.
- f. Distribution. A permit will be mailed directly to the permittee.