

February 2, 2024

Mark Baker
President, Soft Lights Foundation
303 Granite Street
Ashland, Oregon 97520
Sent via email to mbaker@softlights.org

Dear Mr. Baker:

Thank you for contacting the Vermont Department of Health (Department) on this matter.

After a careful review of Vermont's statutes, our legal team has determined that the Department does not have the authority to regulate warning lights and sirens on emergency vehicles. The permits for the issuance of emergency lights jurisdictionally lies within the Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles and the Vermont Department of Public Safety. Further, any attempt to remove lights or sirens from emergency vehicles would render those vehicles inoperable as emergency vehicles under the Vermont motor vehicle laws and would subject the Department to substantial liability and endanger public safety.

Accordingly, the Department respectfully denies this petition for rulemaking to regulate lights and flashing sirens.

Sincerely,



Mark A. Levine, MD
Commissioner

