

Motor Vehicle Division Informational Memo # 25-04

Ch. 451 Authorized Emergency Vehicle Certificate of Designation – EO10 Updates

DATE: March 24, 2025

FROM: Sara Siedsma, Motor Vehicle Division

TO: All Motor Vehicle Division staff

EFFECTIVE: MARCH 26, 2025

SUBJECT

This informational memo explains updates to administrative rule chapter 761—451, Authorized Emergency Vehicle Certificate of Designation.

SUMMARY

This chapter was recently revised pursuant to Executive Order 10 (EO10), which required all state agencies to conduct comprehensive review of all existing administrative rules. The goal of the review was to reduce regulatory burdens and restrictive terms, and to remove obsolete, outdated, inconsistent, redundant or unnecessary regulations, including instances where rule language is duplicative of statutory language.

EO10 required the chapter to be rescinded and then reissued as new.

Below is a summary of the changes made to this chapter as part of the EO10 review:

- Title of the chapter was changed to make it clear the chapter applies to certificates of designation for authorized emergency vehicles pursuant to the authority in Iowa Code section 321.451.
- Rule 451.1 contains updated contact information for the division.
- Rule 451.2 removes language regarding denial of an application for a certificate from the applicant rule and instead moves that language to its own subrule in Rule 451.4
- Rule 451.3 adds a numbering sequence and clarifies the title of the rule but makes no other changes.
- Rule 451.4 clarifies that notice of a denial or revocation of a certificate will be sent to the applicant following the required service procedures found in Iowa Code section 321.16.

The revised rule chapter is effective March 26, 2025.

LINK TO ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

[761 IOWA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE 451 – Adopted and Filed](#)

CURRENT

Chapter 451 implements Iowa Code section 321.451, by outlining the procedures for certain persons to obtain a certificate of designation as an authorized emergency vehicle for their privately owned vehicle from MVD. An authorized emergency vehicle certificate allows its holder, for example, a fire chief or sheriff, to operate their privately owned vehicle to the scene of an emergency, in parades or events, or to display certain flashing lights.

NEW

As of March 26, 2025, the chapter will reflect the changes listed in the summary section above.

BUSINESS IMPACT

Minimal impact. None of the changes to the chapter should have a significant business impact compared to the prior chapter. Staff involved with sending denial or revocation notices may send those notices by methods outlined in Iowa Code section 321.16, including by regular mail if an affidavit of mailing is prepared to document mailing of the notice.