School Bus & School Zone Safety

CHILD SAFETY TIPS

School Bus

• All drivers moving in either direction on a two-way street must stop for a school bus displaying a stop signal and must remain stopped until the road is clear of children AND the school bus stop arm is withdrawn.

• On a highway divided by a paved median, all drivers moving in either direction must stop for a school bus displaying a stop signal and must remain stopped until the road is clear of children AND the school bus stop arm is withdrawn.

• On a highway divided by a raised barrier or an unpaved median at least five feet wide, drivers moving in the opposite direction do not have to stop for the bus. Painted lines or pavement markings are not considered barriers. However, motorists should slow down and watch for students loading or unloading from the bus.

• Failure to stop for a school bus comes with a minimum fine of $165 and three points on your driver license. If you pass on the side where children enter and exit, you will receive a minimum fine of $265.

New Law

On July 1, 2017, the Cameron Mayhew Act took effect in Florida, which increases the minimum penalty for drivers who illegally pass a stopped school bus, resulting in the injury or death of another person. It includes a $1,500 fine and a one-year driver license suspension. Cameron Mayhew was killed by a motorist that failed to stop as he was walking to his stopped school bus in 2016.

School Zone

• Be alert and watch for children especially near schools, bus stops, school buses and in school parking lots.

• Children on bicycles can be unpredictable and can make sudden changes in direction. Be especially careful when children are present in school zones and residential areas.

• Pay extra attention to the lower speed limits in school zones.

• Watch for and obey signals from school crossing guards.

• Only drive or park in authorized areas to drop off or pick up children at school.

#ChildSafetyFL #ArriveAliveFL