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## Entrapment – Louisiana

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<b>ITE</b>	Institute of Transportation Engineers
<b>LDOTD</b>	Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development

The State of Louisiana entraps drivers. Entrapment is illegal in the United States.<sup>1,2</sup> The Louisiana Driver's Guide directly contradicts the ITE provisions and guidelines on how to respond to yellow lights. The Louisiana Driver's Guide says you must slow down and stop and that you should not speed up to get through the intersection. But ITE, the institution that sets the engineering parameters of a yellow light, says that sometimes you can stop while other times you must proceed to and through intersection at the speed limit. ITE says you cannot slow down under the speed limit if you decide to proceed. ITE even further instructs you that it may be necessary at times to beat the light. Therefore obeying the Louisiana Driver's Guide forces you to break Louisiana law, to receive unjust penalties, or worse, to crash.

The Louisiana Driver's Guide:<sup>3</sup>

Yellow Light – a yellow light warns you that the light is about to turn red. Slow down and stop. Don't try to beat the light.

Louisiana uses ITE's yellow change formula to set yellow light durations.<sup>4</sup> ITE says some drivers upon seeing a yellow light *must* continue at the speed limit and some *must* even accelerate to beat the light.<sup>5</sup>

At the termination of a green phase, motorists approaching a signalize intersection are advised by a yellow signal indication that the red interval is about to commence.<sup>35</sup> The speed and location of some approaching vehicles will be such that they can stop safely at the stop line; others will have to continue at their speed or even accelerate into or through the intersection.

## References

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<sup>1</sup> Danny Glover, Jr., et. al, [Entrapment in North Carolina](#), (2012).

<sup>2</sup> Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections, [Louisiana Driver's Guide Classes "D" and "E"](#), **29** (2010).

<sup>3</sup> Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, [Traffic Signal Design Manual](#), **73, Table 2D-3** (2002).

<sup>4</sup> Institute of Transportation Engineers, [Transportation and Traffic Engineering Handbook, Second Edition](#), Institute of Transportation Engineers, **759** (1982)