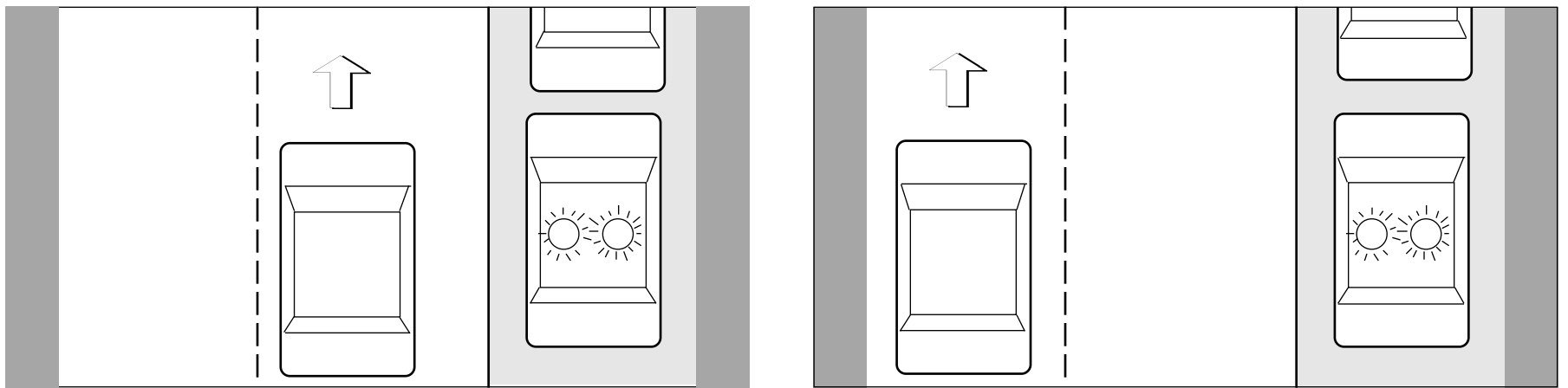# IT'S THE LAW!

Depicted: 2 lanes (in the same direction) of a **4-lane** highway

WRONG!

This can mean a $137* fine!

*Fines vary and can be more or less

RIGHT.

The driver allows a full lane between his car and the emergency vehicle.

ON A **4-LANE**, WHEN YOU SEE FLASHING LIGHTS, MOVE OVER!

The **Ted Foss law**, named for a state trooper killed by a passing motorist in 2000, is being enforced in Minnesota.

It requires, in part, that when on a 4-lane street or highway (such as parts of U.S. 2, U.S. 71 and State 371) and an emergency vehicle (e.g. police, fire, ambulance or tow truck) is stopped on the side with lights flashing, **if safe** to do so, drivers **must** move over (generally into the left lane) and allow a full lane width between their car and the emergency vehicle when passing it. For complete information, see Minnesota Statutes, Section 169.18, Subd. 11

And *Northern Herald* reminds everyone: There is never a need, reason, or excuse to drink and drive. There may be some times (like right after the loss of a spouse or a job) when a person needs to be drunk. It's good anesthetic, and sometimes helpful, in the short-term. But he can do that as well (and a lot cheaper) at home, as in a bar.

If one is at a bar and has one too many, the bartender can usually arrange transportation home. Sometimes they'll even pay for it. A person may be just trying to go home from the bar, but that's just when a lot of fatalities happen.

We have seen unbelievably severe accidents caused by drunk driving, like the one in Jenkins where a car was broadsided, at full speed, and was bashed and twisted beyond recognition. Seeing that wreckage would make a believer out of anyone. A part of Highway 371 had to be closed and a helicopter brought in.

In January 2007, a lady, *a pedestrian* on Highway 2, was mowed down by a driver believed to have been intoxicated at the time. She did not deserve to die. Drunk driving really does kill people, and there is never a need, *nor an excuse* for it.