
LETTER TO THE EDITORS

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Responding emergency vehicles 'own the road'

This is in reference to Shelly Crider's letter regarding Lafayette Fire Company.

Ms. Crider tried to manipulate a situation where she was at fault and she was ticked off because it inconvenienced her into making the fire company her scapegoat.

Didn't quite work, did it?

After Paul Long, an emergency vehicle driver, and Lt. Edwards, a retired state police officer, admonished her, I wonder how she feels now.

From now on, when Ms. Crider sees flashing lights and hear sirens, she should get off the road and stop. The responding emergency vehicle, be it a fire truck, ambulance, police vehicle, etc., with flashing lights and sirens, owns the entire road.

And, yes, that includes the middle of the road. Ms. Crider should have received a citation!

How would Ms. Crider feel if she got to her destination and firefighters had to tell the people, sorry, we didn't get there soon enough to save the building because she was blocking our path?

Where they are going, seconds really count. An elderly person with medical problems, for example, or an infant can only survive for mere seconds in a smoke-filled room. Ms. Crider should remember that the next time she is feeling more important than the folks who are waiting for help.

Since Ms. Crider took the time to write her letter, what's the chance she could come to the next general business meeting of the fire company, and bring the uninformed friend who advised her, and both stand before the entire body and apologize for what they tried to do? (Meetings are held the first Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m.)

Or, are they too busy cleaning egg off their faces?

John J. Lamparter III, Fire Police Officer, Lafayette Volunteer Fire Co.