



DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dale J Schmidt Sheriff **Scott Mittelstadt** Chief Deputy

Law of the Month – September

As we all know, summertime is coming to an end, which means it will begin to get darker outside earlier in the evening. As a result, more people forget to turn their headlights on during hours of darkness or reduced visibility. Although many newer cars have daytime running lights or automatic lights, not all vehicles do. It is important to realize when you must have your headlights on if your car does not do it for you. According to Wisconsin state law 347.06, no person may operate a vehicle upon a highway during hours of darkness or during a period of limited visibility unless all headlamps, tail lamps, and clearance lamps with which the vehicle is required to be equipped are lighted and reasonably clean and in working condition.

347.06- When lighted lamps are required.

- (1) No person may operate a vehicle upon a highway during hours of darkness or during a period of limited visibility unless all headlamps, tail lamps, and clearance lamps with which the vehicle is required to be equipped are lighted. Parking lamps as described in s. 347.27 may not be used for this purpose. This subsection does not apply if lamps that are automatically activated whenever the vehicle is started are in use.
- (2) Headlamps need not be lighted on a towed vehicle or on a vehicle having at least two lighted adverse weather lamps on the front thereof and being operated under the circumstances described in 347.26.
- (3) The operator of a vehicle shall keep all lamps and reflectors with which such vehicle is required to be equipped reasonably clean and in proper working condition at all times.

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/347/ii/06>