

PERSONS RIDING ANIMALS AND DRIVERS OF ANIMAL-DRAWN VEHICLES. G.S. 20-171.

(This is not an instruction)

G.S. 20-171 provides: "Every person riding an animal or driving any animal drawing a vehicle upon a highway shall be subject to the provisions of this article applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except those provisions of the article which by their nature can have no application."¹

For example, in Watson v. Stallings, 270 N.C. 187, 154 S.E.2d 308 (1967) the Court found no error in the instructions of the trial judge, applying to a pony rider the provisions of G.S. 20-156 (entering a public highway from a private road or drive). The instructions said, among other things: "It is the duty of a driver of an animal, or a vehicle, coming out of a private driveway on the public highway, . . . to stop and to yield the right of way to the motorist who is on the main-traveled highway."

While the instructions herein are drawn to deal with vehicles--most of them with motor vehicles--they may be adapted, when applicable, to riders or drivers of animals.

¹State v. Dellinger, 73 N.C. App. 685 (1985) (horseback riders covered by this statute).

