



**Division of State Patrol
Policy and Procedure**

Number
5-6

Subject USE OF CITIZEN BAND (CB) RADIO	
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I. POLICY

It is the policy of the Division of State Patrol (DSP) to effectively utilize Citizen Band (CB) radio units in those patrol vehicles and region/post headquarters that are so equipped.

II. BACKGROUND

Historically, Troopers, Inspectors and Law Enforcement Dispatchers (LEDs) have used CB radio to receive information from motorists about crashes, disabled vehicles, intoxicated/reckless drivers and other incidents.

III. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this policy is to provide guidance to Division personnel in the use of CB radio with the goal of maintaining professional, businesslike communications with the motoring public.

IV. PROCEDURE

Division employees utilizing a CB radio unit in a state-owned vehicle or on state-owned property shall operate within the following guidelines:

- A. Division employees may initiate CB radio transmissions only for the purpose of official business. They shall acknowledge any transmission directed to them in a pleasant, brief and businesslike manner. Employees shall not answer obviously illegal transmissions by others except in an emergency.

- B. Division employees authorized to use a CB radio unit must follow Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Part 95 regulations governing such use. When transmitting from a patrol unit, transmissions shall be identified with the officer's radio call number. When transmitting from a base station, transmissions shall be identified with the Post location.

Example: "State Patrol car 146 to..." or "State Patrol Tomah Post to..."

- C. Division employees shall not use CB radio to discuss any Division function, business, policy or operation at any time unless specifically permitted in this policy.
- D. Division employees who are alerted by CB radio to traffic crashes, traffic violations or disabled vehicles should make a notation of the incident/CFS to enable acknowledgment of the citizen's cooperation.

Generally, whenever a motorist notifies a trooper/inspector via CB radio of a driver suspected of operating while under the influence of intoxicants or controlled substances and an apprehension is made, the trooper/inspector should:

1. Create a Call For Service (CFS) incident to document the contact.
 2. Attempt to obtain the motorist's name, address and telephone number.
 3. If the reporting motorist is a driver of a commercial motor vehicle (CMV), attempt to obtain the name of the motor carrier company, phone number and the CMV driver's supervisor.
 4. Write and forward a brief memo describing the circumstances to the Region Commander, if requested.
 5. At headquarters, the Region Commander or designee should:
 - a. Send a letter to the motorist who reported the Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) and include a DSP Certificate of Appreciation.
 - b. Write a letter to the CMV driver's supervisor about the incident and request that the supervisor present a DSP Certificate of Appreciation to the CMV driver on behalf of DSP.
- E. Installation of CB radios in state-owned vehicles shall be approved by a Bureau of Network Engineering and Data Infrastructure (BNEDI) technician and shall conform to the guidelines contained in this policy.
 - F. State Patrol radio traffic shall at all times have priority over all CB radio traffic. In the event a request to assist another agency is received via CB radio, the applicable State Patrol Communication Center will be notified immediately.

- G. CB radios will not be used to call wreckers or to arrange for bond/deposit moneys.
- H. CB radios will not be used by troopers/inspectors to communicate between patrol vehicles except in the course of official duties. An example of this would be required communication between all units during an oversize load escort detail.
- I. The primary use of CB units in patrol vehicles will be to monitor CB Channel 9 (27.065 MHz) – Emergency or Traveler’s Aid, with occasional monitoring of CB Channel 19 (27.185 MHz) – Highway Traffic (truckers).

V. REFERENCE

Federal Communications Commission Regulations Part 95