Michigan State Police

Crash Advisory # 17

Revised January 2014

How frequently should our agency send completed UD-10s to Lansing?

We request that you send them in everyday or at least once a week, but if it is anything less frequently than once a month, you are making it more difficult for other officers across the state to do their job, and placing your agency in a potentially embarrassing situation. Here is why…

For example: A crash occurs on March 1 and you do not send in the UD-10 until May 1; all that time, the driver who caused that March 1 crash drives without the Secretary of State knowing about the crash. Perhaps that driver's poor driving record would cause the Secretary of State to demand a re-examination, or restrict or revoke that driver's license! If you do not send in the UD-10 and alert the traffic safety system, we cannot notify the Secretary of State who, in turn, can not take administrative action against the driver. When your fellow officers, either at your agency or somewhere across the state, stop the driver and run an Ops check, they will not see the driver's entire driving record. Equally menacing is the thought that the driver may injure or kill someone in a subsequent crash.

"Who cares? It is only an insurance form anyway, right?"

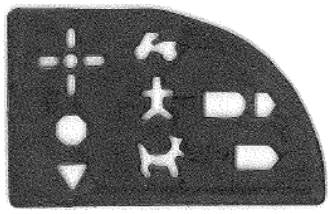
Wrong! A lot of people care about accurate and timely crash data. YOU care and may not even know it. Data reported on the UD-10 is used by traffic engineers to help redesign unsafe roads and intersections. It is used by Road Commissions to recoup repair costs from insurance companies when public property is damaged. It is used by law enforcement to assign patrols to roads where an unusually high number of crashes occur. It is used by the Secretary of State to update driver records and get "problem" drivers off our roads. The Federal Government uses it in statistical analysis of data to develop traffic safety countermeasures. Accurate and timely data is important to everyone!

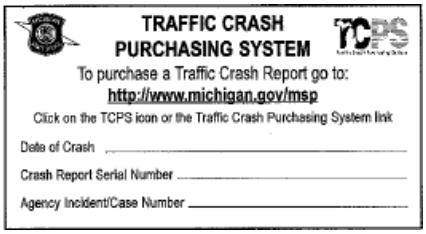
A UD-10 cannot be used as evidence in a court of law.

A UD-10 *"shall not be available for use in a court action"* (MCL 257.624). So, if you hold a UD-10 until all associated action is adjudicated, you are placing the driving public and your agency at unnecessary risk. You should submit the original report as soon as possible, and then submit a corrected copy at a later date if necessary.

Crash diagram templates and TCPS cards.

Crash diagram templates and TCPS cards are available by contacting the Michigan State Police Traffic Crash Reporting Section at (517) 241-1699 and we will be happy to send some out to you.





Please Distribute to All Personnel Who Complete or Review Traffic Crash Reports