

# Commercial Motor Vehicle Enforcement Quarterly



## ***Captain's Corner***

Captain Robert R. Powers, Jr.

By the time you are reading this newsletter, the nomination forms for the 2009 Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police Awards for Excellence in Commercial Vehicle Safety should be posted on the MACP website ([www.michiganpolicechiefs.org](http://www.michiganpolicechiefs.org)). The deadline for submitting applications is November 15, 2009.

In 2007 we suspended the awarding of \$6,000 in equipment grants to winners, but we were able to resume the equipment grants last year. Unfortunately, we have experienced a significant reduction in the funding that supports this program. Consequently equipment grants will not be awarded to 2009 winners. Winning agencies will still receive a handsome plaque and recognition at the MACP awards banquet to be held on February 11, 2010 in Grand Rapids.

The Traffic Safety Division recently ratched up enforcement of the registration requirements under the Unified Carrier Registration (UCR) Program. The UCR Program, which replaced the Single State Registration System (SSRD) in 2005, requires all motor carriers (for-hire and private) operating in interstate and international commerce to register and pay a fee. Brokers, freight forwarders and leasing companies are also required to register. Failure to register under UCR is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$500 and/or 90 days in jail.

To register under UCR, Michigan domiciled motor carriers can contact the Michigan Public Service Commission at (517) 241-6030 or on-line at [www.ucr.in.gov](http://www.ucr.in.gov).

I want to announce a personnel change at Traffic Safety Division Headquarters. Sgt. Steve Pascoe, formerly our training sergeant has been reassigned to head-up our investigations unit. Sergeant Pascoe replaces Brad Banks who recently left the State Police to accept a position at the Michigan Public Service Commission.

In addition to his new duties, Sergeant Pascoe will continue to provide some training services. Sergeant Pascoe can be reached at (517) 336-6572 or by e-mail at [PascoeS@Michigan.gov](mailto:PascoeS@Michigan.gov).

In closing I want to wish everyone an enjoyable and safe summer.

***July 2009***

## ***SECTIONS***

### ***Captain's Corner***

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**Act 300**

Amendment of section 257.719 effective June 9, 2009

The amendment was granted to allow log slasher units to operate throughout the state of Michigan provided they are operated in a safe manner and in compliance with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. The requirements include and are not limited to annual inspection, brakes on all axles, lights, safety chains and breakaway brakes.



The amendment is found in paragraph (3)(c). “Notwithstanding subsection (4)(d), a truck tractor with a log slasher unit and a log saw unit: no overall limit if the length of each unit does not exceed 28-1/2 feet, or the overall length of the log slasher unit and the log saw unit, as measured from the front of the first towed unit to the rear of the second towed unit while the units are coupled together, does not exceed 58 feet. The coupling devices of the truck tractor and units set forth in this subdivision shall meet the requirements established under the motor carrier safety act of 1963, 1963 PA 181, MCL 480.11 to 480.25.”

**Acts 254 & 584**

**Unified Carrier Registration (UCR) Enforcement**

Purpose of UCR enforcement

The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) is authorized to collect and distribute UCR funds which are restricted for commercial vehicle safety programs. The importance for UCR enforcement continues to grow, as our officers continue to identify numerous interstate carriers\* that have not registered their vehicles under UCR.

\*Interstate carrier is a carrier that operates in commerce “profit seeking venture” across stateliness or country borders.

UCR violation indicator

Officers are reminded that interstate carriers with vehicles over 10,000 pounds are required to obtain a USDOT# under the Federal Motor Carrier Regulations (FMCSR) and display it according to FMCSR section 390.21 and also register their vehicles under UCR.

Officers who identify interstate carriers (Michigan based or from other states) that does not have the proper USDOT# and carrier I.D. should be aware that it is a very good indicator that they company has not completed the proper UCR registration.

Verification of UCR

Officers can log onto [www.safersys.org](http://www.safersys.org) to verify that a carrier is not registered under UCR.

Enforcement of UCR

Officers who have identified a carrier to be in violation should issue a misdemeanor citation for “Failure to Register under UCR using section 479.16 and offense code 8915. All questions concerning the UCR requirements can be directed to TSD/HQ (517) 336-6572 or MPSC (517)241-6030.

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Suggestions or comments should be submitted to Sgt. Steve Pascoe, 517-336-6572 Fax 517-333-4414, e-mail [PascoeS@michigan.gov](mailto:PascoeS@michigan.gov)  
Check us on the web! [www.michigan.gov/msp](http://www.michigan.gov/msp). You will find us under “Specialized Divisions.”