



# Traffic Services Section Michigan State Police Field Update #4

Providing Traffic Related Information and Services to Michigan Law Enforcement

Section Phone (517) 336-6171

[www.michigan.gov/msp-traffic](http://www.michigan.gov/msp-traffic)

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## Tow Dollies

Tow dollies are two-wheeled towing devices used to transport vehicles by supporting one axle on the dolly, with the other axle on the road. A 1985 agreement between the Michigan State Police and the Michigan Department of State considers them as "coupling devices" rather than trailers in Michigan. The Michigan Department of State will not issue a registration plate for a tow dolly. Do not stop vehicles or issue citations for failing to display a registration plate on a tow dolly.

## Gopeds and Pocket Bikes

With warmer weather approaching, motorized scooters (gopeds) and miniature motorcycles (pocket bikes) are once again becoming an issue on Michigan roads. Gopeds generally meet the definition of moped under [MCL 257.32b](#), but are not usually equipped as required for registration by the Secretary of State. Some pocket bikes also meet the definition of moped, but most exceed the limits of 2.0 hp, 50cc piston displacement, or 30 mph top speed. For electric scooters, 2.0 hp is equal to 1500 watts and the 50cc piston displacement is irrelevant, as a vehicle without a piston cannot exceed 50cc piston displacement. Those gopeds and pocket bikes that exceed any of these limits become motorcycles under [MCL 257.31](#) if they have a saddle or seat, or off-road vehicles under [MCL 324.81101\(m\)](#). Regardless of which of the above classifications are met, gopeds and pocket bikes are motor vehicles under [MCL 257.33](#) and subject to all applicable traffic laws. Unless legally registered, they are not legal for use on roads in Michigan, and are never legal for use on sidewalks. Contact the [Vehicle Code Unit](#) for additional information.

## UD-10 Traffic Crash Report Information

The Criminal Justice Information Center (CJIC) Traffic Crash Unit is planning their annual UD-10 Train the Trainer sessions for 2005, and is in the process of searching for agencies willing to host this training. The criteria for hosting these training sessions are the capacity to hold 25+ people and the equipment for a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Michael Ransom, a new CJIC staff member, will be the instructor, and brings fresh ideas on making the training more informative and interesting. If interested in hosting a training session, please contact Mr. Ransom by email at [ransomml@michigan.gov](mailto:ransomml@michigan.gov) or phone at (517) 322-5418.

The UD-10 Instruction Manual was revised in May 2004. Please visit the [CJIC web page](#) to view or download the [manual](#). In addition, you will find other useful information including Frequently Asked Questions, [Most Common Errors](#), and a [request form](#) for access to the Traffic Crash Web Site.

CJIC Traffic Crash Report web page: <http://w3.michigan.gov/msp/0,1607,7-123--28578--,00.html>

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