



Traffic Services Section Michigan State Police Field Update #7

Providing Traffic Related Information and Services to Michigan Law Enforcement

Section Phone (517) 336-6171

www.michigan.gov/msp-traffic

Fax (517) 336-6259

2005 Michigan Vehicle Code Excerpt Manual

The 2005 edition of the Michigan Vehicle Code (MVC) Excerpt Manual has recently been completed by the Traffic Services Section and has been forwarded to the Secretary of State (SOS) for publication. It is expected to be available for distribution by late August. As with previous versions, copies for Michigan State Police troopers will be distributed through the districts, while motor carrier officers will receive their copies through the Motor Carrier Division. County and municipal police agencies may purchase copies directly from SOS Inventory Control Unit at (517) 335-4793 (request MVC Condensed Version), and may order standard or customized binders from the Michigan Department of Corrections, Michigan State Industries at (517) 373-4277.

For those that are not familiar, the manual is a 5 ½" x 8 ½" loose-leaf publication that easily fits in a briefcase or vehicle glove compartment. MVC sections are organized by subject, with tabs that roughly correspond to the headings on a ticket book cover. Sections that do not directly relate to enforcement have been omitted to reduce the size and simplify finding relevant information.

Motorcycle Headlamp Modulators

It has come to the attention of the Traffic Services Section that some motorcycle operators have been stopped and ticketed for having installed headlamp modulators. A modulator causes the headlamp to flicker at a set rate and intensity.

The tickets have been improperly written under [MCL 257.698\(5\)](#), which states "The use or possession of flashing, oscillating, or rotating lights of any color is prohibited **except as otherwise provided by law...**" Motorcycle headlamp modulators are "otherwise provided by law" under [MCL 257.698\(4\)](#), which states in part "Unless both covered and unlit, a vehicle...shall not be equipped with a lamp...unless expressly required or permitted by this chapter **or that meets the standards prescribed in 49 C.F.R. 571.108.**" Motorcycle headlamp modulators are allowed as a safety device pursuant to [49 CFR 571.108 S7.9.4](#).

Legal devices can be used on either low-beam or high-beam, but not both, and will flicker approximately 240 times per minute. Properly working devices will give the appearance of a loose connection. Devices that alternate between high-beam and low-beam are illegal.

UD-10 Traffic Crash Report Information

There is a new shortcut to the UD-10 webpage. Type www.michigan.gov/crash to be routed directly to the page. Several new UD-10 Advisories have also recently been added.

[Alcohol Enforcement Unit](#)
[Grant Administration Unit](#)
[Section Commander](#)
[Speed Measurement Unit](#)

(517) 336-6338
(517) 336-6121
(517) 336-6611
(517) 336-6651

[Crash Reconstruction Unit](#) (517) 336-6579
[Field Support Unit](#) (517) 336-6685
[Section Technician](#) (517) 336-6171
[Vehicle Code Unit](#) (517) 336-6660