



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE CORPS NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION COMMAND
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134-5001

11240
B 216
31 Mar 04

COMMANDING GENERAL'S POLICY LETTER 1-04

From: Commanding General

Subj: POLICY FOR USE AUTOWATCH VEHICLE DATA RECORDERS

Ref: (a) MCBO P11240.4
(b) MCBO 11240.2B
(c) MCBO 5560.2B
(d) MCBO 5800.1

1. Purpose. To establish policy regarding the use of AutoWatch Vehicle Data Recorders by the Fleet Manager, MCNCR.

2. Background

a. AutoWatch Vehicle Data Recorders are devices that may be installed into garrison mobile equipment (GME) (commercial vehicles) for monitoring, among many other data points, vehicle speeds, tachometer readings, and throttle positions and compare this data against preset parameters. Readings that exceed preset parameters are recorded and downloaded periodically. The reports may be used to monitor the safe driving of operators and modify an unsafe operators' driving habits through counseling, retraining, and, if necessary, punishment. The deterrent factor created by the AutoWatch Recorders will contribute to safe driving and ultimately save lives, protect property, and preserve resources.

b. References (a) and (b) establish the authority of the fleet manager to issue MCB Form 4730/8, Roadmaster Report, DD Form 1408, Armed Forces Traffic Ticket, and to suspend authority of an individual to operate a government owned vehicle (GOV). Reference (c), in conjunction with the VA Traffic Code, establishes the conditions under which a DD Form 1408 may be issued, and reference (d) establishes the procedures by which an individual issued a DD Form 1408 will have their accused offense adjudicated.

3. Policy

a. Repercussions are focused on retraining and not punishment. Punishment will be administered via the individual's chain of command or via the Base Traffic Court.

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b. The fleet manager may, solely at their discretion, install an AutoWatch Data Recorder into any vehicle in the MCNCRC GME fleet at any time.

c. Parameters

(1) Non-Emergency Vehicles

Max Speed: 45 MPH
Max Throttle Position: 40%
Tachometer Reading: 3500 RPM

(2) Emergency Vehicles

Max Speed: 55 MPH
Max Throttle Position: 70%
Tachometer Reading: 4500 RPM

d. Reporting/Investigation. The fleet manager will periodically download data recordings from each autowatch device and analyze the reports for readings suggesting unsafe driving and potential violations of VA Traffic Code and references (a) and (c). If the readings exceed the parameters, the fleet manager, via the roadmasters and in conjunction with the officer/supervisor who is assigned the vehicle, will initiate an investigation into the circumstances that led to the readings. In many cases, there will be good reasons that the parameters were exceeded.

e. Citations/Remedial Training. When an autowatch report warrants an investigation the fleet manager will take the following action.

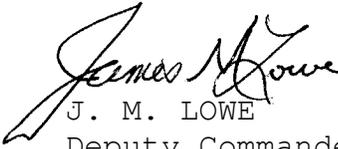
(1) Issue a MCB Form 4730/8 to the operator. The operator will be required to attend remedial instruction at the next Remedial Driver Training Course conducted by the Drivers Training Section, Safety Division, MCB, Quantico. The individual's authority to operate a GOV is suspended until completion of remedial training.

(2) Issue a DD Form 1408 when reports indicate that an operator has exceeded the speed limit by 20 MPH or more or when a reckless act such as an accident or an incident resulting in injuries has occurred in conjunction with readings in excess of the preset parameters. The issuance of a DD Form 1408 is in addition to the

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suspension of driving privileges and remedial training as discussed above. Any awarded punishment due to adjudication of the DD Form 1408 is independent of the remedial training requirement.

f. Any individual who disables an autowatch device to avoid vehicle monitoring is subject to disciplinary action.


J. M. LOWE
Deputy Commander

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