



Chapter: Traffic Enforcement and Crash Investigation
Subject: 06-23 – Oversized Loads or Equipment
Effective: March 14, 2024
Supersedes: Official Order 06-23, dated April 19, 2022
Distribution: Department Members

PURPOSE: This Order establishes department policy for escorting oversized vehicle loads or equipment on the highways.

06-23-1 AUTHORITY

- A. Statute allows the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and various county road commissions to issue special permits authorizing oversized and/or overweight vehicle loads or equipment to operate on highways under their jurisdiction.
- B. When vehicles or equipment to be moved exceed certain dimensions, MDOT's Transport Permit Section requires that these vehicles or equipment have one or two private escorts.
 - (1) MDOT may request a police escort, but only for unusual circumstances.
 - (2) Local agencies that issue permits may have different policies on police escorts.

06-23-2 OVERSIZE (SUPER) VEHICLE LOAD ESCORTS

- A. While a police escort of oversized vehicle loads or equipment is required, local or county law enforcement agencies may be used at the requesting carrier's discretion. Enforcement members shall not be specifically required to provide an escort, except in cases of emergency or other unusual circumstances.
- B. Enforcement members who are requested by a permit holder to provide an escort shall instruct them to contact the Operations Section at 517-241-8000.
- C. All escorts shall be on an overtime basis and the department shall be reimbursed for all expenses by the requesting carrier.
- D. A minimum of two enforcement members shall conduct the escort. One shall lead the escort and the other shall be the escort's trail vehicle.

When possible, for the purpose of continuity, the same members may be assigned to escort oversize loads throughout the entirety of the route while on highways of this state.
- E. Motor Carrier Officer Responsibilities

- (1) A motor carrier officer may be assigned to inspect the oversized load prior to the escort being conducted.
- (2) All inspections shall be conducted on an overtime basis and the department shall be reimbursed for all expenses by the requesting carrier.

F. The Operations Section shall:

- (1) Serve as the point of contact between the requesting carrier and the department.
- (2) Ensure the carrier has the proper MDOT permits.
- (3) Complete the Contractual Service Agreement form, UD-066, and obtain all required signatures.
 - a. Once the UD-066 is completed, the Field Operations Bureau will obtain SIGMA accounting codes from the Budget and Financial Services Division that will be used to reimburse the affected post for the escort.
- (5) Coordinate with the affected post to ensure that the necessary resources are available on the date and time which the vehicle escort is needed.
- (6) Provide the SIGMA accounting codes to the effected post and CVED fiscal manager to ensure proper overtime reimbursement.

06-23-3 PERMIT ENFORCEMENT POLICY

- A. If the width, height, length, or weight of a vehicle or load is in excess of what is stated on the permit, an enforcement member shall issue a citation for the dimension violation.
 - (1) Over-length violations [MCL 257.719](#), Offense Code 8976.
 - (2) Over-width violations [MCL 257.717](#), Offense Code 8977.
 - (3) Over-height violations [MCL 257.719](#), Offense Code 8978.
 - (4) For weight violations, contact a motor carrier officer for assistance.
- B. Deliberate or intentional operation of a vehicle off the route specified by a permit shall be cause for voiding the permit and taking enforcement action as outlined in Section 06-23-3 A above.
- C. All other violations of any provision of a permit issued by MDOT such as signage, flags, times of operation, and speed shall be strictly enforced.
 - (1) Permit provision violations shall be cited as "Violation of Michigan Department of Transportation or local authority Permit" followed by the specific permit violation.
 - (2) The Offense Code shall be cited as 8970 or 8971, in violation of [MCL 257.719a](#) (Mobile Homes) or [MCL 257.725](#) (all others), as applicable.
- D. Motor carrier officers shall be contacted for assistance when technical or permit questions arise.

DIRECTOR

Annual Review Responsibility:	Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division
Accreditation Standards:	CALEA 61.1.5 E and 61.3.3