The Consolidated Weights and Measures Act
Report to the Pennsylvania General Assembly
Title 3 Pa C.S.A. Chapter 41, Title 70

March 2015
Overview

The Division of Weights and Measures, part of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture’s Bureau of Ride and Measurement Standards, was created to help ensure equity in the marketplace through laws and regulations, uniform inspection and testing procedures, and certified and knowledgeable inspectors.

The division is empowered through the Consolidated Weights and Measures Act, Title 3 Pa C.S.A. Chapter 41, with additional regulations found in Title 70. The act requires the department to describe all relevant activities of the state inspectors of weights and measures, certified examiners of weights and measures, and city and county sealers of weights and measures for the preceding calendar year.

The division is required to inspect weighing and measuring devices on a set schedule: either an annual inspection or at some greater interval not to exceed every fifth year, depending on the device. The division conducts these inspections through its regionally-assigned inspectors and supervisors and Certified Examiners of Weights and Measures. These inspectors and supervisors work with the remaining county and city sealers who conduct weights and measures activities in their respective jurisdictions through an ongoing Memorandum of Understanding with the department.

Included in the appendix of this report are the spreadsheets outlining the activities of the division’s personnel, county and city sealers, and Certified Examiners of Weights and Measures for 2014. The appendix also includes a map which identifies the seven regions the division is broken into, the supervisors responsible for each region, and the existing county and city sealer programs with their contact information.
Consumer Education and Outreach
As part of the commonwealth’s transparency efforts, the division continues to use its online inspection database that allows consumers to access inspection reports. This application can be found [www.pda.state.pa.us/WMInspections](http://www.pda.state.pa.us/WMInspections). Visit the database to see the latest inspection reports for local businesses and devices.

The website also includes an online complaint form that consumers can use to alert the department to potentially inaccurate devices. The number of consumer complaints by location is included as part of the report spreadsheets in the appendix.

The “Tested and Approved” and “Rejected” seals placed on each item that is inspected by the department feature the state’s toll-free number, 1-877-TEST-007, which consumers can use to register complaints or concerns about scales, gas pumps and other state-regulated measuring devices. The red rejected seal serves as a warning to consumers that the device it is affixed to is in need of service or repair. These seals indicate a pending issue and that the department is working with the device owner to correct it. In many cases a device with a rejected seal may still be in service if the issue is a repair that does not affect the accuracy of the device or if the accuracy of the device is in the consumer’s favor. Devices found to be out of operational condition or beyond the acceptable tolerance levels and detrimental to the consumer are immediately taken out of service (made unusable by the consumer) until such time as repairs are made and the device is found to be operating within allowable tolerances.
Weights and Measures Inspections
The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture’s Division of Weights and Measures is responsible for inspecting devices such as scales – ranging from small-retail to large-capacity truck scales, truck-mounted fuel meters, liquid propane gas meters, retail fuel pumps, compressed natural gas meters, grain moisture meters, load rack meters, timing devices (except parking meters) and all consumer scanning systems (UPC/PLU).

Inspection Details
The division inspects all devices in 54 of Pennsylvania’s 67 counties and provides support to the remaining 13 county sealer and two city sealer programs. The division is also responsible for ensuring consumer questions and concerns are addressed in a timely manner.

Enforcement Actions
The state, through Act 155 of 1996, adopts many of the federal standards created by the National Institute of Standards and Technology as found in its Handbook 44, Handbook 130 and other related publications. As devices and systems are found to be faulty or beyond the acceptable tolerance levels, action is taken to formally acknowledge the concerns of the state and bring the device into compliance. Written warnings are the first step in acknowledging an issue with a device or with a business/vendor. The number of warnings, citations and prosecutions are included as part of the report spreadsheets in the appendix.

Certified Examiner of Weights and Measures Program
Act 155 of 1996 amended PA C.S.A. Chapter 41, § 4110 (a)(4) and authorizes the department to use private industry professionals who have been trained and certified to conduct field level inspections on behalf of the department. With this use of department trained, tested and certified professionals, the role of the weights and measures division personnel moves to serve as the quality control auditors who monitor this program’s implementation and provide the final assurances that the law is being upheld and that the certified examiners are protecting the consumers they represent.

The CEWM program applies only to devices under the direct responsibility of the department to inspect. Understanding the need to monitor these inspections, the department is diligent in its duty to conduct random and thorough inspections and audits of all CEWM program inspections, as mandated.

Certified UPC/PLU Inspector Program
In line with the Consolidated Weights and Measures Act, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture’s Division of Weights and Measures developed a Certified Universal Product Code (UPC) and Price Look-Up (PLU) Inspector Program. Scanning systems and devices are inspected annually by the division or private business, as allowed by the act. PLU/UPC device inspectors complete a training course conducted by the division every three years.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Badge id</th>
<th>Statewide Totals</th>
<th>CEWM Inspections</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>49,538</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### SCALES

#### Badge 11

- **Small**: 268, 49, 8
- **Medium**: 10, 9, 31, 2
- **Large**: 0
- **FDM**
  - Tested: 612, 247
  - Reject: 9
- **VTM**
  - Tested: 664, 49
  - Reject: 0
- **LPG**
  - Tested: 1,747, 242
  - Reject: 0
- **LRM**
  - Tested: 81, 4
  - Reject: 0
- **GMM**
  - Systems: 22
  - Reject: 0
- **Boxes**: 942
  - 10
  - 0

#### Badge 12

- **Small**: 197, 92
- **Medium**: 4, 9
- **Large**: 0
- **FDM**
  - Tested: 230, 53
  - Reject: 0
- **VTM**
  - Tested: 817, 47
  - Reject: 0
- **LPG**
  - Tested: 1,388, 98
  - Reject: 0
- **LRM**
  - Tested: 932, 59
  - Reject: 3
- **GMM**
  - Systems: 2
  - Reject: 0

#### Badge 13

- **Small**: 611, 0
- **Medium**: 0
- **Large**: 0
- **FDM**
  - Tested: 622, 62
  - Reject: 0
- **VTM**
  - Tested: 2,730, 189
  - Reject: 18
- **LPG**
  - Tested: 391, 97
  - Reject: 0
- **LRM**
  - Tested: 925, 91
  - Reject: 0
- **GMM**
  - Systems: 12
  - Reject: 0

#### Badge 14

- **Small**: 11
- **Medium**: 0
- **Large**: 0
- **FDM**
  - Tested: 1,747, 242
  - Reject: 0
- **VTM**
  - Tested: 817, 47
  - Reject: 0
- **LPG**
  - Tested: 1,388, 98
  - Reject: 0
- **LRM**
  - Tested: 932, 59
  - Reject: 3
- **GMM**
  - Systems: 2
  - Reject: 0

#### Badge 15

- **Small**: 197, 92
- **Medium**: 4, 9
- **Large**: 0
- **FDM**
  - Tested: 230, 53
  - Reject: 0
- **VTM**
  - Tested: 817, 47
  - Reject: 0
- **LPG**
  - Tested: 1,388, 98
  - Reject: 0
- **LRM**
  - Tested: 932, 59
  - Reject: 3
- **GMM**
  - Systems: 2
  - Reject: 0
# Bureau of Ride and Measurement Standards

## Weights and Measures Division

### 2014 Inspection Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Bureau</th>
<th>SCALES</th>
<th>MISCELLANEOUS</th>
<th>TIME DEVICE</th>
<th>METERS</th>
<th>UPC / PRICE VERIFICATION</th>
<th>PKG CHECK</th>
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### Total:

- Counties/Cities:
  - Adams: 94,897
  - Allegheny: 4,185
  - Beaver: 676
  - Bucks: 377
  - Centre: 257
  - City of Meadville: 45
  - City of Scranton: 394
  - Cumberland: 1,094
  - Delaware: 2,103
  - Greene: 180
  - Montour: 88
  - Northampton: 1,855
  - Northumberland: 533
  - Sullivan: 44
  - Westmoreland: 789
  - York: 2,069

### Total:

- State Bureau: 19,118
- Cities: 658
- Region 6: 32,910
- Region 7: 2,384
- Total: 4,059

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**Note:** The above data represents inspection statistics for various regions and counties within Pennsylvania, detailing the number of inspections, complaints, and other relevant metrics for the Bureau of Ride and Measurement Standards.
Bureau of Ride & Measurement Standards
Weights and Measures Division

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State Toll-Free Consumer Line 1-877-TEST-007