



For Immediate Release
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HPD Tackles Unsafe Trucks

Harrisonburg, Va. The Harrisonburg Police Department's Motor Carrier Unit just completed a two-week enforcement "blitz" targeting commercial vehicle safety. The specialized team conducted inspections of large trucks, trailers, and driver credentials at various locations throughout the City and at a trucking hub in Rockingham County.

Harrisonburg is unique in the Shenandoah Valley as its Motor Carrier personnel are federally certified to perform inspections and place violator's out-of-service if needed. "In most cases, bad brakes and defective lights were the biggest culprits in the vehicles not passing the inspection process," stated HPD Traffic Officer Greg Deeds. Officers have the discretion to let the driver of an unsafe vehicle call a mechanic to the scene to affect repairs. More serious conditions require towing of the vehicle. "Our focus is to get unsafe trucks fixed or remove them from the road before they possibly cause an accident," added Deeds.

With the growing concern for truck safety at the national and local level, particularly along Interstate 81, HPD's Motor Carrier Unit – originally fielding two officers when established in 1998 – has increased its team to six (6) officers this year. The expansion of this unit is a continuing commitment to keep the motoring public safe in Harrisonburg and surrounding communities.

A snapshot of the 2-week enforcement campaign:

98	Motor Carrier Inspections
121	Violations Detected
6	Commercial Motor Vehicles (CMV) placed out-of-service
3	Trailers placed out-of-service
1	Driver placed out-of-service

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