

**CHAPTER 21**  
**INVESTIGATIONS**

1. GENERAL.

a. This chapter is intended to provide trainees with a basic understanding of the procedures used for investigating complaints against motor carriers, in depth hours-of-service investigations, inspections supplemental to accident investigations, and seizure of evidence, including chain of possession requirements.

b. The MCSTO shall provide detailed instruction on each training segment contained in this chapter. This chapter does not repeat Chapter 5, Basic Terminal Inspection, but builds on the foundation necessary to complete this segment of training.

2. COMPLAINTS AGAINST MOTOR CARRIERS.

a. The MCSTO shall review the following references with the trainees:

(1) Authorities.

(a) Authority to regulate (34500 and 34501(a)(1) VC).

(b) Authority to inspect (34501 (a)(3) VC and 13 CCR 1202(a)).

(2) Policies and Procedures.

(a) Policy (HPM 84.1, Chapter 1).

1 Objectives (paragraph 1.b.).

2 Rationale (paragraph 1.c.).

a Paragraph 1.c.(1) (Terminal Inspection as enforcement tool).

3 Terminal Inspection (paragraph 5.a.).

4 Inspection Priorities (paragraph 5.e.).

5 Enforcement (paragraph 5.f.).

- 6 Enforcement Guidelines (paragraph 5.g.).
- 7 Liaison With U.S. Department of Transportation (paragraph 6.).
- 8 Liaison With Other State Departments (paragraph 7.).
- 9 Information Release Policy (paragraph 9.).
- 10 Complaints Against Motor Carriers (paragraph 11.).
- (b) Inspection Procedures and Reports (HPM 84.1, Chapter 2).
  - 1 General (paragraph 1.).
    - a Paragraph 1.a. - Purpose.
    - b Paragraph 1.b. - Reports.
  - 2 Physical Evidence (paragraph 1.c.(4)).
  - 3 Terminal Inspection Depth (paragraph 1.h.).
    - a Paragraph 1.h.(8) - Seizure of Records.
    - b Paragraph 1.h.(9) - Preparation and Distribution of CHP 343C, Records Receipt.
  - 4 Reason for Inspection (paragraph 3.n.).
- (c) Enforcement Action (HPM 84.1, Chapter 13).

- b. Review completed CHP 356 and CHP 343-1(s), along with any supporting documentation from Division suspense files. All three possible findings, "Unfounded," "Sustained," and "Undetermined" should be discussed.
- c. MCSTO shall explain Division policy for inspection depth and suspense date.
- d. Review proper terminal entry and exit procedures with trainees.
- e. Review terminal environment and personal safety procedures peculiar to this activity with the trainees.

f. MCSTO should present a scenario exercise, based on experience, to ascertain the trainee's ability to deduce the correct findings and make recommendations for necessary actions to be taken. A CHP 356 should be used, along with the necessary number of CHP 343-1 s, so trainees may demonstrate correct form completion and appropriate verbiage. This exercise should be retained in the Training File for each trainee.

3. IN-DEPTH HOURS OF SERVICE INVESTIGATIONS.

a. The MCSTO shall review, with the trainees, the following references:

- (1) Authority to regulate (34500 and 34501(a)(1) VC).
- (2) Authority to inspect (34501(a)(3) VC and 13 CCR 1202(a)).
- (3) Limitations: Driving Hours (34501.2 VC).
- (4) Hours of Service Regulations (13 CCR 1212, 1212.5, and 1213).
- (5) Required Records for Motor Carriers (13 CCR 1234).
- (6) Federal Hours of Service Regulations (49 CFR Part 395).
- (7) Federal Hours of Service Interpretations (incorporated by reference in 34501.2 VC and 49 CFR part 395).
- (8) Unlawful Schedule (34501.3 VC). (9) Exceptions (13 CCR 1200).
- (10) Log Book Requirements (34501.4 VC).
- (11) Location of Driver Records and Log Books (34501.10 VC).
- (12) Hours of Service/Speed (HPM 84.1, Chapter 2,1.h.(4)).

b. The MCSTO shall ensure that trainees fully understand the statutes and regulations in combination with the interpretations and exceptions before any field training is attempted. This may be accomplished by relating pertinent personal examples and trainer-produced scenarios that allow the trainees to work through the regulations and assemble documents to show that certain violations have occurred in the simulated situations.

c. Explain the term "supporting documents," when they are required by federal regulations, and how this applies under state requirements.

d. The MCSTO should familiarize the trainees with departmental hours of service inspection and documentation equipment, such as the LOGSTAR software with digitizer pad and laptop computer, and Golden State Logcheck hand-held 7- or 8-day total hours calculator.

e. Show by example and explain how to arrive at an objective conclusion in the investigation by combining records that are required and any other records that may be available. For example, use the driver's daily vehicle inspection reports (maintenance records) to compare with duty status records (logbooks) and compare those documents to motel receipts, freight bills, scale receipts, toll bridge receipts, repair bills, fuel bills or receipts, and the motor carrier's citation history, as listed in the MISTER system. Many routine motor carrier records are time and date stamped. Compare these with the timekeeping records, using DMV Pull-Notice records to ascertain the driver's license number as listed in the MISTER system Carrier Citation History. Experienced MCSTOs should share their expertise with trainees.

f. Explain to trainees the common methods used by motor carriers to pay drivers. These should include salary, bonus, incentive, hourly percentage of revenue, mileage, and flat rate per load as examples. Teach trainees to determine the method of pay and to compare this to the timekeeping records. Reinforce lessons with practical exercises, and retain them in the training records.

#### 4. SEIZURE OF EVIDENCE AND CHAIN OF POSSESSION.

a. The MCSTO shall review, with the trainees, the following references:

- (1) Authority to regulate (34500 and 34501(a)(1) VC).
- (2) Authority to inspect (34501 (a)(3) VC and 13 CCR 1202(a)).
- (3) Authority to seize evidence (Attorney General's Opinion, warrantless search as authorized by 34501 VC).
- (4) Procedures and Reports (HPM 84.1, Chapter 2).
  - (a) Physical Evidence (paragraph 1.c.(4)).
  - (b) Seizure of Records (paragraph 1.h.(8)).
- (5) Safeguarding of Property and Evidence (GO 100.88).

- (6) Evidence Manual (HPM 70.1).
  - (a) Policy statement (Foreword).
  - (b) Collection and Marking of Physical Evidence (Chapter 4).
  - (c) Forms - Completion and Management (Chapter 6).

b. The MCSTO shall familiarize the trainees with the Evidence Room/Lockers at the appropriate Area offices and Division MCSU.

c. Explain the procedures used at the facilities for booking evidence, introducing Area Evidence Officers and summarizing their duties. Show trainees the CHP 36B, Evidence /Property Log, and explain its use.

d. Emphasize the necessity for the handling of evidence and/or property of others, exactly as policy requires. These procedures are legally defensible, and the seized items may make or break an important court case:

e. The MCSTO should present a practical exercise using the CHP 343C with CHP 343-1 Continuation, using the CHP 343C as a "totals" form for large amounts of evidence seized, as the CHP 343-1 s will be used to document each item removed.

f. Provide each trainee with a CHP 36, Evidence/Property Receipt/Report, and demonstrate the correct completion and attachment of the form to the evidence or its container. Explain the chain of possession concept, and show trainees how to complete the back of the hardstock copy attached to the evidence each time it is handled.

g. Explain the Seized Records Copying Policy, as it addresses the use of carrier-owned copy machines and the incremental return of copies of any records taken. Emphasize that original documents are always seized, as copies have little evidentiary value.

h. Enter the trainees' practical exercises into their training records.

5. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION - MECHANICAL INSPECTION OF VEHICLES.

a. The MCSTO shall review the following references with the trainees:

- (1) Policy (HPM 84.1, Chapter 1).
  - (a) Enforcement Responsibilities (paragraph 3.a.(3)).

- (2) Inspection Procedures and Reports (HPM 84.8, Chapter 2).
    - (a) Vehicle Inspection (paragraph 1.c.(1)).
    - (b) Physical Evidence (paragraph 1.c.(4)).
  - (3) HPM 84.8, Chapter 3. Field Activity Reporting.
    - (a) Form Preparation (paragraph 2.a.).
    - (b) Report Entries (paragraph 2.b.(7) and (8)).
  - (4) Guide for using the CHP 556 (HPM 84.1, Annex D).
  - (5) Vehicle Equipment Inspection Guide (HPG 83.2).
  - (6) Photographs For Accidents and Investigations (GO 110.8).
  - (7) Photography - Techniques of Accident Investigation (ANNEX C).
- b. Explain to the trainees that mechanical expertise inherent in the tasks they complete for the Department makes them credible witnesses for investigations where mechanical failure is suspected in an accident. The CHP Academy does not teach mechanical application or theory; they advise officers to seek competent help when the probability of mechanical failure exists in a vehicle involved in an accident.
- c. The MCSTO should allow trainees to accompany him or her, or another qualified MCS I with the trainer present, on an accident investigation, to observe first hand the inspection procedures, occupational safety measures, and completion of the Supplementary CHP 556.
- d. Discuss with the trainees any "working notes" they may use during the course of the investigation. Remember to destroy any unnecessary documentation after the report is reviewed and accepted, as all notes are subject to subpoena. Show trainees the examples of working notes in Annex A.
- e. Encourage trainees to use the procedures exactly as outlined in HPG 83.2, when possible, as those proven procedures are easily remembered when in court.
- f. Discuss the use of 35mm vs. Polaroid photographs. When duplicates of photos will likely be required, 35mm should be used for cost and availability reasons.

g. The MCSTO shall demonstrate proper occupational safety procedures unique to this type of activity. All departmental safety equipment is required, including bump cap, coveralls, and eye protection. Leather gloves should be provided for working adjacent to jagged metal and shattered glass. Instruct trainees about the site of inspection, pools of possible hazardous materials, and unusual hazards, such as drugs, needles, and hidden firearms. Particular caution should be exercised when working around charred vehicle components. Remind trainees about proper use of hydraulic jacks and jack stands. A floor jack and stands may be available at a local Area office.

h. Explain the Department's policy of the on disassembly and reassembly of vehicles that have been inspected. For liability reasons, no reassembly is permitted. A CHP 346(a); "Out of Service" notification is to be affixed to the vehicle, listing the items disassembled and their disposition, (usually inside the vehicle), and warning persons who ho move the vehicle that corrective action is necessary for safe movement.

i. The MCSTO should have the trainees complete a CHP 556 incorporating all the required elements, briefly and to the point. Facts should be summarized, but opinions never expressed. An outline of the required elements is in Annex B. This exercise shall be entered into the training records.

**ANNEX A**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION  
WORKING NOTES FOR SUPPLEMENTARY ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION**

**SMALL TRUCK / AUTOMOBILE**

**Inspection date(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Inspection time(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Inspection Location** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Area / Agency / Officer requesting inspection**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Accident / Vehicle Number as indicated on CHP (180) / Allied Agency  
accident report or log**

\_\_\_\_\_

**VEHICLE DESCRIPTION**

**Year, Make, Model** \_\_\_\_\_

**Body Color(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Interior color(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**License Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Expiration** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vehicle V.I.N.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Odometer** \_\_\_\_\_ **mi/km** **Engine Displacement** \_\_\_\_\_ **liter/c.i.d.**

**Trip odometer** \_\_\_\_\_ **mi/km** **Fuel type used** \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNEX A**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (continued)**

**Fuel system:**

Carburetor \_\_\_\_\_ number of barrels \_\_\_\_\_ Multiple carburetors \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel Injection \_\_\_\_\_ mechanical \_\_\_\_\_ electronic \_\_\_\_\_ combination \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel injectors: leaking \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel rail/return metal \_\_\_\_\_ rubber \_\_\_\_\_ leaks \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel filter(s) in-line \_\_\_\_\_ canister \_\_\_\_\_ spin on \_\_\_\_\_ leaking \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel pump: mechanical \_\_\_\_\_ electric \_\_\_\_\_ in tank \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel tank: metal \_\_\_\_\_ plastic \_\_\_\_\_ secured \_\_\_\_\_ fill pipe intact \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel lines: rubber \_\_\_\_\_ plastic \_\_\_\_\_ metal \_\_\_\_\_ leakage \_\_\_\_\_

Throttle control system: mechanical linkage \_\_\_\_\_ mechanical cable \_\_\_\_\_  
electronic (drive by wire) \_\_\_\_\_

Cruise control \_\_\_\_\_ Cruise control switch setting off \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_

Turbocharged \_\_\_\_\_ Supercharged \_\_\_\_\_ Air cleaner / Spark arrestor intact \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel System Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Exhaust System:**

Dual exhaust \_\_\_\_\_ Single exhaust \_\_\_\_\_ Mufflers,converters,heat shields intact \_\_\_\_\_

Routing from Engine Manifolds left side \_\_\_\_\_ center \_\_\_\_\_ right side \_\_\_\_\_

Exhaust pipe outlet(s) down \_\_\_\_\_ turned out \_\_\_\_\_ left side \_\_\_\_\_ right side \_\_\_\_\_

Intact \_\_\_\_\_ Damaged \_\_\_\_\_

Exhaust System notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ANNEX A

MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (continued)

Drivetrain:

Engine configuration: V-16 \_\_\_\_\_ V-12 \_\_\_\_\_ V-8 \_\_\_\_\_ V-6 \_\_\_\_\_ V-4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Inline 8 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Opposed 12 \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Rotary \_\_\_\_\_ Electric motor(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Transmission: Automatic \_\_\_\_\_ Manual \_\_\_\_\_ Number of forward gears \_\_\_\_\_  
Continuously Variable Transmission (CVT) \_\_\_\_\_ Overdrive \_\_\_\_\_  
Transmission control gear selector position \_\_\_\_\_ Overdrive on \_\_\_off \_\_\_

Axes: Number of axles \_\_\_\_\_ Front drive \_\_\_\_\_ Rear drive \_\_\_\_\_ 4 wheel drive \_\_\_\_\_  
Part time 4 wheel drive \_\_\_\_\_ Full time 4 wheel drive \_\_\_\_\_ Speeds \_\_\_\_\_  
Transfer case selector position \_\_\_\_\_ (may be floor lever or dash switch)

Drivetrain notes: (Damage, modifications, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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**ANNEX A**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (*continued*)**

**Steering system:**

Power \_\_\_\_\_ Manual \_\_\_\_\_ Rack & Pinion \_\_\_\_\_ Gearbox \_\_\_\_\_

Hydraulic Assist \_\_\_\_\_ Electric Assist \_\_\_\_\_ Remote reservoir \_\_\_\_\_

Steering Wheel Size (Diameter) \_\_\_\_\_ Turns lock to lock \_\_\_\_\_

Reservoir Fluid Level \_\_\_\_\_

Belt & Hose condition \_\_\_\_\_

Pump & Reservoir \_\_\_\_\_

Steering Wheel & Column \_\_\_\_\_

Steering shaft, gearbox (securement) \_\_\_\_\_

Pitman arm \_\_\_\_\_

Drag link \_\_\_\_\_

Spindle arm \_\_\_\_\_

Spindles, King pins \_\_\_\_\_

Idler arm(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Tie rod, Center link \_\_\_\_\_

Steering system notes: (damage, modifications) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ANNEX A**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (continued)**

**Braking system:**

Manual \_\_\_\_\_ Power assisted \_\_\_\_\_ Vacuum assist \_\_\_\_\_

Hydraulic assist \_\_\_\_\_ Air over hydraulic assist \_\_\_\_\_

Split Hydraulic system \_\_\_\_\_ Split Air system \_\_\_\_\_

Master cylinder: Bent \_\_\_\_\_ Broken \_\_\_\_\_ Iron \_\_\_\_\_ Aluminum \_\_\_\_\_

Reservoir: Single \_\_\_\_\_ Dual \_\_\_\_\_ Cast \_\_\_\_\_ Plastic \_\_\_\_\_ Remote \_\_\_\_\_

Reservoir cover: Single \_\_\_\_\_ Dual \_\_\_\_\_ Cap \_\_\_\_\_ Missing \_\_\_\_\_

Brake fluid level in reservoir \_\_\_\_\_ Contaminated \_\_\_\_\_

Brake hoses, tubing and fittings \_\_\_\_\_

Brake Pedal Height: Unapplied \_\_\_\_\_ in Free Travel \_\_\_\_\_ in

Applied Pedal Height with assist \_\_\_\_\_ in  
(from floorboard to pedal)

Applied Pedal Height without assist \_\_\_\_\_ in

Brake system function: with power assist, does application of pressure to the brake pedal

apply front brakes? Yes / No Rear brakes? Yes / No

without power assist, does application of pressure to the brake pedal

apply front brakes? Yes / No Rear brakes? Yes / No

Parking Brake: Handbrake \_\_\_\_\_ Footpedal \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

Position at time of inspection \_\_\_\_\_ Adjustment \_\_\_\_\_

Brake system notes: (condition, modifications) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ANNEX A**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (continued)**

**Brake system (continued): Wheel Brakes**

	Left front	Right front	Left rear	Right rear
Brake type (rotor, drum, etc.)				
Lining type				
Lining thickness				
Outside/primary/front				
Inside/secondary/rear				
Lining to drum / rotor clearance				
<b>Hardware &amp; Adjusters</b>				
Adjuster type				
Missing parts				
<b>Wheel Cylinders</b>				
number (per wheel)				
leaking or defective				
Rotor actual measured thickness				
Rotor manufacturer's minimum thickness				
Drum actual measured inside diameter				
Drum manufacturer's maximum diameter				

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ANNEX A

MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (continued)

**TIRES:**

Left front: Manufacturer/Brand \_\_\_\_\_

Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Load Rating \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. at \_\_\_\_\_ psi max

Plies: Tread: Poly \_\_\_\_\_ Steel \_\_\_\_\_ Nylon \_\_\_\_\_ Rayon \_\_\_\_\_

Sidewall: Poly \_\_\_\_\_ Steel \_\_\_\_\_ Nylon \_\_\_\_\_ Rayon \_\_\_\_\_

Tread Wear \_\_\_\_\_ Traction(letter) \_\_\_\_\_ Temperature \_\_\_\_\_

DOT Number \_\_\_\_\_

Inflation \_\_\_\_\_ psi at time of inspection FLAT \_\_\_\_\_

Tread depth: \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32

Right front: Manufacturer / Brand \_\_\_\_\_

Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Load Rating \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. at \_\_\_\_\_ psi max

Plies: Tread: Poly \_\_\_\_\_ Steel \_\_\_\_\_ Nylon \_\_\_\_\_ Rayon \_\_\_\_\_

Sidewall: Poly \_\_\_\_\_ Steel \_\_\_\_\_ Nylon \_\_\_\_\_ Rayon \_\_\_\_\_

Tread Wear \_\_\_\_\_ Traction(letter) \_\_\_\_\_ Temperature \_\_\_\_\_

DOT Number \_\_\_\_\_

Inflation \_\_\_\_\_ psi at time of inspection FLAT \_\_\_\_\_

Tread depth: \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32

Notes: (defects,etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\* Inspection of tire with valve stem at 12:00 position, and tread grooves reported outside to inside

ANNEX A

MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (continued)

Tires (Continued):

Left rear: Manufacturer/Brand \_\_\_\_\_

Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Load Rating \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. at \_\_\_\_\_ psi max

Plies: Tread: Poly \_\_\_\_\_ Steel \_\_\_\_\_ Nylon \_\_\_\_\_ Rayon \_\_\_\_\_

Sidewall: Poly \_\_\_\_\_ Steel \_\_\_\_\_ Nylon \_\_\_\_\_ Rayon \_\_\_\_\_

Tread Wear \_\_\_\_\_ Traction(letter) \_\_\_\_\_ Temperature \_\_\_\_\_

DOT Number \_\_\_\_\_

Inflation \_\_\_\_\_ psi at time of inspection FLAT \_\_\_\_\_

Tread depth: \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32

Left rear: Manufacturer/Brand \_\_\_\_\_

Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Load Rating \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. at \_\_\_\_\_ psi max

Plies: Tread: Poly \_\_\_\_\_ Steel \_\_\_\_\_ Nylon \_\_\_\_\_ Rayon \_\_\_\_\_

Sidewall: Poly \_\_\_\_\_ Steel \_\_\_\_\_ Nylon \_\_\_\_\_ Rayon \_\_\_\_\_

Tread Wear \_\_\_\_\_ Traction(letter) \_\_\_\_\_ Temperature \_\_\_\_\_

DOT Number \_\_\_\_\_

Inflation \_\_\_\_\_ psi at time of inspection FLAT \_\_\_\_\_

Tread depth: \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32

Notes: (defects,etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\* Inspection of tire with valve stem at 12:00 position, and tread grooves reported outside to inside.

**ANNEX A**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (*continued*)**

**WHEELS:**

Left front: steel \_\_\_\_\_ aluminum \_\_\_\_\_ Number of fasteners \_\_\_\_\_  
Damaged \_\_\_\_\_

Right front: steel \_\_\_\_\_ aluminum \_\_\_\_\_ Number of fasteners \_\_\_\_\_  
Damaged \_\_\_\_\_

Left rear: steel \_\_\_\_\_ aluminum \_\_\_\_\_ Number of fasteners \_\_\_\_\_  
Damaged \_\_\_\_\_

Right rear: steel \_\_\_\_\_ aluminum \_\_\_\_\_ Number of fasteners \_\_\_\_\_  
Damaged \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**ANNEX A**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (*continued*)**

**LIGHTS:**

Headlights: Switch Position \_\_\_\_\_ Left Lamp \_\_\_\_\_ Right Lamp \_\_\_\_\_  
Inner/lower lamp \_\_\_\_\_ inner/lower lamp \_\_\_\_\_

Taillights: Switch Position \_\_\_\_\_ Left Lamp \_\_\_\_\_ Right Lamp \_\_\_\_\_

Stoplamps: Switch Position \_\_\_\_\_ Left Lamp \_\_\_\_\_ Right Lamp \_\_\_\_\_

Turn signal lamps: Switch Position \_\_\_\_\_ Hazard lamp switch \_\_\_\_\_  
Left front \_\_\_\_\_ Right front \_\_\_\_\_  
Left rear \_\_\_\_\_ Right rear \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**REMEMBER TO DISPOSE OF THESE NOTES WHEN INSPECTION REPORT HAS BEEN  
ACCEPTED, AS A NORMAL COURSE OF ACTION**

**ANNEX A**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (continued)**

**MCSI MECHANICAL INSPECTION  
WORKING NOTES FOR SUPPLEMENTARY ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION**

**MOTORCYCLE**

**Inspection date(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Inspection time(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Inspection Location** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Area / Agency / Officer requesting inspection**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Accident / Vehicle Number as indicated on CHP (180) / Allied Agency  
accident report or log**

\_\_\_\_\_

**VEHICLE DESCRIPTION**

**Year, Make, Model** \_\_\_\_\_

**Body Color** \_\_\_\_\_ **Frame Color** \_\_\_\_\_

**License Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Expiration** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vehicle V.I.N.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Engine V.I.N.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Odometer** \_\_\_\_\_ **mi/km** **Engine Displacement** \_\_\_\_\_ **c.i.d./cc**

**ANNEX A**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (continued)**

**Transmission:** *IMPORTANT! Do NOT Move Shifter!*

Foot or Hand control \_\_\_\_\_ Left or Right side (facing forward) \_\_\_\_\_

Control linkage design \_\_\_\_\_ Damaged? \_\_\_\_\_

Gear Position at time of inspection \_\_\_\_\_ Number of speeds \_\_\_\_\_

Case condition \_\_\_\_\_ Oil level, condition \_\_\_\_\_

Speed range for each gear: 1st \_\_\_\_\_ 4th \_\_\_\_\_

2nd \_\_\_\_\_ 5th \_\_\_\_\_

(Dealer data, if possible) 3rd \_\_\_\_\_ 6th \_\_\_\_\_

Clutch control (left or right, hand or foot actuated, condition, linkage or cable, response) \_\_\_\_\_

Hydraulic clutch control (reservoir level, hose condition) \_\_\_\_\_

**Final Drive:**

Chain(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Belt(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Shaft \_\_\_\_\_

Condition (leaks, frayed, damage, excessive las) \_\_\_\_\_

Gearbox: oil level, lube condition \_\_\_\_\_ Case condition \_\_\_\_\_

**Front Suspension:**

Forks-modified, extended \_\_\_\_\_

Fork leakage, damage \_\_\_\_\_

Hydraulic or Springer \_\_\_\_\_ Air Pressure, Left \_\_\_\_\_ psi Right \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Axle condition and securement \_\_\_\_\_

**Rear Suspension:**

Monoshock or dual shocks \_\_\_\_\_

Solid frame (hardtail), or Swing Arm and component condition(bushings, alignment) \_\_\_\_\_

Axle condition and securement \_\_\_\_\_

Suspension damage/notes \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNEX A**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (continued)**

**Brakes:**

General system design \_\_\_\_\_

ABS system \_\_\_\_\_

Front brakes: Dual disc, Single disc, Drum \_\_\_\_\_

Cable Condition, Master cylinder fluid level, hose condition, leakage \_\_\_\_\_

Control (lever, left, right, handlebar, foot pedal) \_\_\_\_\_

Brake pad(s) thickness, or Shoe lining thickness Left/Upper \_\_\_\_\_

Right/Lower \_\_\_\_\_

Rotor/Drum condition \_\_\_\_\_

Rear brakes: Dual disc, Single disc, Drum \_\_\_\_\_

Linkage Condition, Master cylinder fluid level, hose condition, leakage \_\_\_\_\_

Control (lever, left, right, handlebar, foot pedal) \_\_\_\_\_

Brake pad(s) thickness, or Shoe lining thickness Left/Upper \_\_\_\_\_

Right/Lower \_\_\_\_\_

Rotor/Drum condition \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNEX A**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (*continued*)**

**Fuel System:**

Tank (damage, modifications, location on vehicle, cap, estimated capacity and estimated amount of fuel remaining) \_\_\_\_\_

Carburetor(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel Injection \_\_\_\_\_ Turbocharger \_\_\_\_\_ Modified \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel lines and fittings (condition, leakage, modifications) \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel Pump, filter \_\_\_\_\_

ANNEX A

MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (continued)

TIRES:

Front: Manufacturer/Brand \_\_\_\_\_

Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Load Rating \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. at \_\_\_\_\_ psi max

Plies: Tread: Poly \_\_\_\_\_ Steel \_\_\_\_\_ Nylon \_\_\_\_\_ Rayon \_\_\_\_\_

Sidewall: Poly \_\_\_\_\_ Steel \_\_\_\_\_ Nylon \_\_\_\_\_ Rayon \_\_\_\_\_

Tread Wear \_\_\_\_\_ Traction(letter) \_\_\_\_\_ Temperature \_\_\_\_\_

DOT Number \_\_\_\_\_

Inflation \_\_\_\_\_ psi at time of inspection FLAT \_\_\_\_\_

Tread depth: \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32

Rear: Manufacturer / Brand \_\_\_\_\_

Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Load Rating \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. at \_\_\_\_\_ psi max

Plies: Tread: Poly \_\_\_\_\_ Steel \_\_\_\_\_ Nylon \_\_\_\_\_ Rayon \_\_\_\_\_

Sidewall: Poly \_\_\_\_\_ Steel \_\_\_\_\_ Nylon \_\_\_\_\_ Rayon \_\_\_\_\_

Tread Wear \_\_\_\_\_ Traction(letter) \_\_\_\_\_ Temperature \_\_\_\_\_

DOT Number \_\_\_\_\_

Inflation \_\_\_\_\_ psi at time of inspection FLAT \_\_\_\_\_

Tread depth: \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32, \_\_\_\_/32

Notes: (defects, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\* Inspection of tire with valve stem at 12:00 position, and tread grooves reported outside to inside

**ANNEX A**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (*continued*)**

**WHEELS:**

Front:      steel \_\_\_\_\_ aluminum \_\_\_\_\_ Number of fasteners \_\_\_\_\_  
          Damaged \_\_\_\_\_

Rear:        steel \_\_\_\_\_ aluminum \_\_\_\_\_ Number of fasteners \_\_\_\_\_  
          Damaged \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ANNEX A**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (*continued*)**

**LIGHTS:**

Headlights: Switch Position \_\_\_\_\_ Left Lamp \_\_\_\_\_ Right Lamp \_\_\_\_\_  
Lower lamp \_\_\_\_\_

Taillights: Switch Position \_\_\_\_\_ Left Lamp \_\_\_\_\_ Right Lamp \_\_\_\_\_

Stoplamps: Switch Position \_\_\_\_\_ Left Lamp \_\_\_\_\_ Right Lamp \_\_\_\_\_

Turn signal lamps: Switch Position \_\_\_\_\_ Hazard lamp switch \_\_\_\_\_  
Left front \_\_\_\_\_ Right front \_\_\_\_\_  
Left rear \_\_\_\_\_ Right rear \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ANNEX A**

**MCS I MECHANICAL INSPECTION (*continued*)**

**Other accessories that may have been a contributing factor in the accident:**

Cruise control (on or off) \_\_\_\_\_ Intercom, radio \_\_\_\_\_

Automatic air compressor(suspension leveling) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone, CB radio \_\_\_\_\_

Engine oil tank (fluid level, capacity) \_\_\_\_\_

High Pressure Gas shock absorber reservoirs and lines(**NEVER ATTEMPT TO CHECK THE PRESSURE OF THESE COMPONENTS!! DANGER 2000 PSI!!**) \_\_\_\_\_

Toolbags, saddlebags (improperly mounted) \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**REMEMBER TO DISPOSE OF THESE NOTES WHEN INSPECTION REPORT HAS BEEN ACCEPTED, AS A NORMAL COURSE OF ACTION**

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**ANNEX B**  
**VEHICLE INSPECTION**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA				
NARRATIVE / SUPPLEMENTAL				
CHP 556				
DATE OF INCIDENT/OCCURRENCE	TIME	HCIC NUMBER	OFFICER I.D. NUMBER	Page 1 NUMBER
June 01, 1997	1700 hrs.	00000		CHP

**VEHICLE INSPECTION**

**REQUESTED BY:** (Motor Carrier Safety Unit, Special Services Commander, MCS III, etc.)  
(CHP officer, Allied Agency)

**INSPECTION LOCATION:** (Name of Towing Service Yard or Area office, etc.)  
(Street Address)  
(City, State, Zip Code) Telephone (Area Code) 555-1212

**VEHICLES INSPECTED:**

VEHICLE #1- (Year, Model, Make)	(State)	License #	Unit # (Company)	VIN# (Seventeen digits)	(Owner)
VEHICLE #2- (1986 Wabash trailer)	(CA)	License (FT000)	Unit #(111)	VIN#	(Owner)
VEHICLE #3- (dolly)		License #	Unit #	VIN#	(Owner)
VEHICLE #4-		License #	Unit #	VIN#	(Owner)

*Be sure to include mileage readings (odometer or hubodometer) if applicable*

**ITEMS TO BE INSPECTED:** (Braking system, etc.)

**PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN:** (3) rolls of (12) exposure (35mm film), taken with CHP camera  
Developed at (photo shop) (if any) Enter "NONE" if none taken

**EVIDENCE REMOVED:** (Listed on CHP 343-C) (if any) Enter "NONE" if none taken

**INSPECTION WITNESSES:** (Name, Rank or position, Identification Number)

California Highway Patrol, (Division)  
(Street address)  
(City, State) (Telephone)

**SUMMARY:** (Briefly describe the carrier's fleet size, number of drivers, scope of operation, commodities transported, etc.)

**NOTE:** Attach additional CHP 556 vehicle inspection pages, one vehicle per page. Briefly describe the condition of vehicles as you find them before inspection, this will help if you are not able to inspect components because of impact damage. Remember to follow the inspection procedures in HPG 83.2, as these are easily remembered and defended in court. Document all measurements taken and items inspected.

The Last Page of the report should contain a summary of the conclusions made from an "objective" inspection, entitled "CONCLUSIONS". If any of the inspected items contributed to the incident, these should be listed with a brief explanation.

PREPARED BY NAME AND I.D. NUMBER	DATE	REVIEWER'S NAME	DATE
M. C. SPECIALIST A16203	June 01, 1997		

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**ANNEX C**  
**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
**TENIQUIES OF ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION**

1. Importance of Photography.
  - a. Permanent, accurate record of:
    - (1) Collision site..
    - (2) Physical evidence.
    - (3) Vehicle damage.
  - b. One picture is worth a thousand words.
  - c. Can support conclusion/investigation.
2. Use of Photographs.
  - a. Accident reconstruction.
  - b. Use to write narrative/diagram preparation.
  - c. Criminal/civil court proceedings.
    - (1) Presentation of physical evidence.
    - (2) Memory aid for the investigator.
3. Credibility/admissibility of photographs.
  - a. Admissible as maps or diagrams.
    - (1) People vs. Mahatch 148 Cal. 200.
    - (2) People vs. Singh 78 Cal. 544.
  - b. Photographer/developer need not testify.
    - (1) Witness/officer can testify photograph is a fair representation of the subject of the Photo.
    - (2) People vs. Ah Lee 164 Cal 350.

## ANNEX C

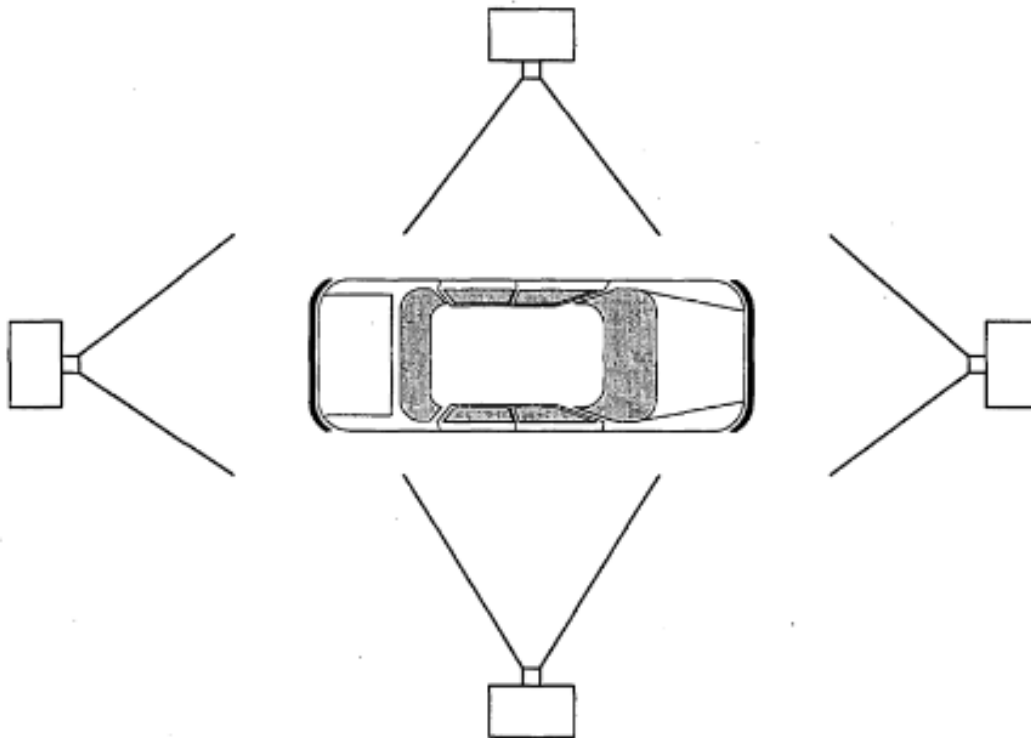
### PHOTOGRAPHY TENIQUIES OF ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION (*continued*)

- (3) People vs. Dogget 83 Cal App. 2d.405.
  - (4) People vs. Mehaffey 32 Cal. 2d. 535.
4. Problems with admissibility of photographs.
- a. Photo is not representative of subject.
    - (1) Telephoto/wide angle/lens distortion.
  - b. Where inaccuracy can be shown.
    - (1) Stewart vs. St. Paul City 80 N.W. 855.
  - c. Excluded where they incite emotion/passion of the jury.
    - (1) People vs. Burns 109 Cal. App. 2d. 524.
    - (2) Autopsy photos, etc.
  - d. Photo must be relevant.
    - (1) People vs. Burns 109 Cal. App. 2d. 524.
  - e. Don't mark negatives.
  - f. Don't mark print prior to admission to evidence without instruction from the court.
5. Photographic sources.
- a. Law enforcement - CHP or Allied Agency.
  - b. Professional photographers.
  - c. Free-lance photographers.
  - d. Newspaper photographs.
  - e. Claims adjusters (insurance co.).
  - f. Safety officer for truck/rental company.
6. When to photograph.
- a. ASAP - Before scene clean up (before marking).

## ANNEX C

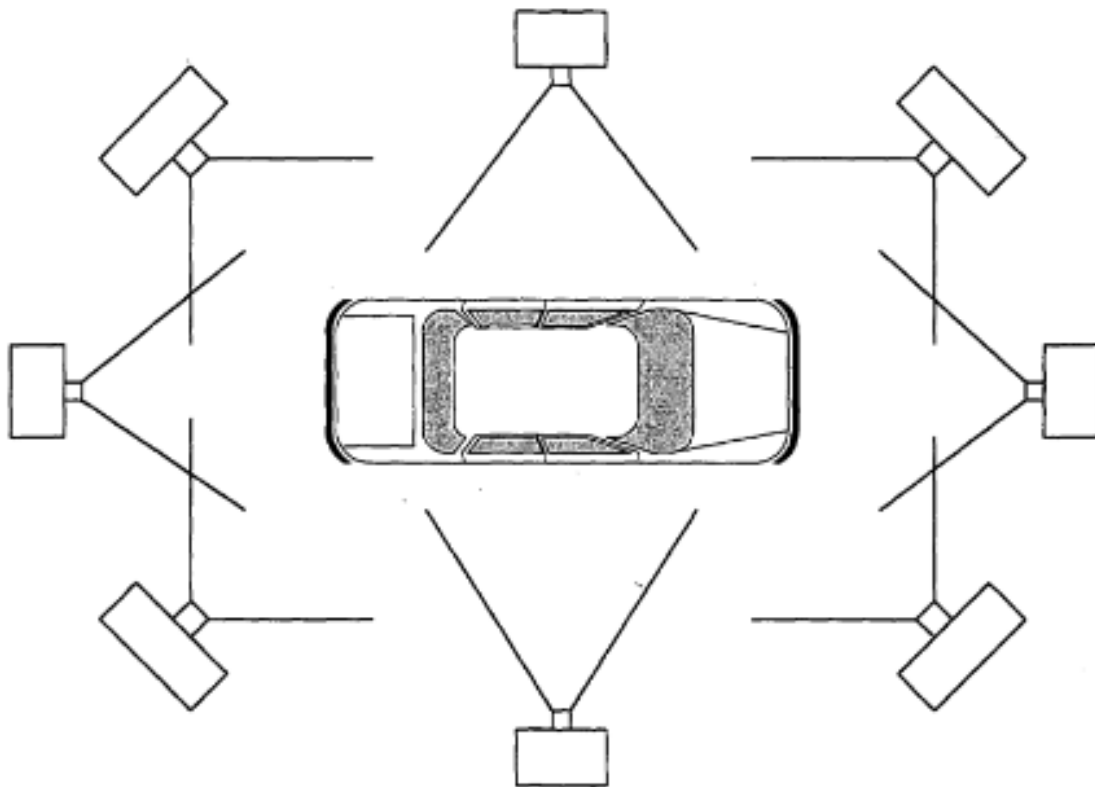
### PHOTOGRAPHY TECHNIQUES OF ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION (*continued*)

- b. Photograph permissible items first.
- c. After scene clean up.
- d. Daylight photos of collision occurring during darkness.
- e. Appropriate lighting.
  - (1) Use oblique lighting when possible.
- f. Vehicle(s) exterior.
  - (1) Take general photographs of the vehicle exterior damage. The objective of these photographs should be to document the entire surface area of the vehicle.
  - (2) Don't forget photographs of the top of the vehicle and undercarriage when these areas contain evidence relevant to your investigation.



A minimum of 4 photographs

**ANNEX C**  
**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
**TENIQUIES OF ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION (*continued*)**



Recommend taking at least 8 photographs

- (3) Damage detail, including close-ups.
  - (a) Imprints.
  - (b) Transfers.
  - (c) Damage to tires/wheels.
  - (d) Damage to lamps.
  - (e) Take overall view and then move closer.
  - (f) Include measuring devices (don't obscure evidence).