

VOLUME I, CHAPTER 25.  
(MDC)

**25. MOBILE DATA COMPUTERS  
(MDC)**

(November 2007)

**I. POLICY**

Mobile data computers facilitate the dispatch of calls for service, dispatcher-to-car as well as car-to-car messaging, and local and NCIC warrant checks. Mobile data computers also provide access to electronic mapping.

**II. CHECKLIST (N/A) III.  
DEFINITIONS**

**CHRI:** Criminal history record information

**IV. FORMS**

- Ⓞ MVS/MDC Equipment  
Inspection/Malfunction Report (PGC  
Form # 4621)

**V. PROCEDURES**

**1. MDC Overview**

Mobile Data Computers (MDCs) provide in-car access to several databases. MDCs can receive criminal information from:

- Ⓞ Maryland Interstate Law Enforcement System (MILES)
- Ⓞ National Crime Information Center (NCIC)
- Ⓞ Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA)
- Ⓞ National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS)
- Ⓞ Office of the Sheriff for Prince George's County (OSPG)
- Ⓞ PGPD Crime Look-up and Evaluation System (C.L.U.E)

**MOBILE DATA COMPUTERS**

Officers shall not use the MDC until they have received MDC training and MILES/NCIC certification.

Only software purchased or acquired by the County will be installed on the MDCs. An approved County contractor shall do all software installation or repair.

Special care shall be taken to prevent the spillage of liquids onto the MDC.

All MDC transmissions are recorded and are recoverable. Abusive, profane, demeaning, harassing, or threatening messages are prohibited.

CHRI shall not be disclosed to any unauthorized person. Criminal history shall not be disseminated to anyone other than authorized law enforcement personnel. Care will be taken to shield the MDC screen from civilians or arrestees when it contains CHRI. **See: VOLUME I, CHAPTER 33. RECORDS & REPORTS, section 3. Criminal History Record Information (CHRI)**

Trained officers operating a police vehicle equipped with a MDC shall log-on to the system while in service. Officers shall logoff and shut down the MDC if they expect to be away from the vehicle for more than thirty minutes.

Safe vehicle operation is of primary concern when using the MDC. Officers should consider stopping their vehicle before using the MDC if use is going to divert attention from the safe operation of the vehicle. Generally, it is not appropriate for officers to operate the MDC while their vehicles are in motion.

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All priority calls for service will be dispatched and acknowledged using the police radio. Routine response and report calls may be dispatched via MDC.

When officers receive a warrant hit, they shall confirm the warrant with Public Safety Communications via the police radio prior to prisoner transport.

When officers make a traffic stop or investigate a suspicious vehicle, they shall use the police radio to notify the dispatcher of their status and location. Traffic stops shall also be cleared via police radio.

Other than for calls described above, officers may use the MDC to advise the dispatcher of call clearance codes.

### 2. Inspections

At least monthly, a supervisor shall inspect MDCs. This inspection shall be documented on the MVS/MDC Equipment Inspection/Malfunction Report.

If any deficiencies are noted, the supervisor shall contact the Technical Services Division (TSD) and fax a copy of the MVS/MDC Equipment Inspection/Malfunction Report to them prior to the officer going in service. If the deficiency is noted after hours, the supervisor shall fax a copy of the MVS/MDC Equipment Inspection/Malfunction Report to the TSD and instruct the officer to contact them during business hours.

Once officers have the deficiency corrected, they shall notify their supervisor who shall then re-inspect the MDC.

PRINCEGEORGE'S COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT G

## MOBILE DATA COMPUTERS (MDC)

### 3. Securing Portable MDC Equipment

Employees shall ensure that portable MDC equipment is properly secured in its docking station whenever the vehicle is left unattended.

When the vehicle is left unattended for more than two hours, the employee shall remove his or her portable MDC from the docking station, place it in the trunk, or secure it in another safe location.

## VI. GOVERNING LEGISLATION & REFERENCE

This General Order addresses:

- ⊙ Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies, Standards 26.1.1, 41.2.1, 41.3.7, 53.1.1, 81.2.4, 81.2.5, 81.2.9, 82.1.7, 82.1.9, 82.3.8
- ⊙ Memorandum of Agreement Between the United State's Department of Justice and Prince George's County, Maryland, January 22, 2004

Governing Legislation:

- ⊙ Maryland Code, Criminal Procedure, Section 10-219
- ⊙ Maryland Code, State Government, Governmental Procedures, Title 10, Subtitle 6 et. seq.
- ⊙ Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20

GENERAL ORDER MANUAL