

Pennsylvania State Police Testimony

Senate Transportation Committee

Commercial Vehicle Safety and Nondomiciled CDLs

December 9, 2025



Good morning, Chairs and members of the committee. I am Captain Hardeep Rai, Assistant Bureau Director of the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) Bureau of Patrol, and I am joined by Lieutenant Michael Pavelko, Director of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Division, Bureau of Patrol. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today to provide information pertaining to commercial vehicle safety, as it relates to the enforcement of commercial driver's license (CDL) requirements.

The PSP Commercial Vehicle Safety Division oversees the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) and serves as the Commonwealth's designated MCSAP lead agency. In this capacity, we oversee the training and certification of approximately 650 certified commercial vehicle inspectors composed of PSP personnel, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission personnel, and municipal police officers from approximately 200 local police departments. These inspectors conduct approximately 90,000 roadside commercial vehicle inspections annually to ensure the driver, vehicle, and the load are in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

As part of the inspection process, the driver's CDL is obtained and documented on the inspection report. Computer queries are made of the CDL to ensure it is valid, not suspended or disqualified, and there are no active criminal warrants for the driver. These queries are made through multiple systems, including the Commonwealth Law Enforcement Assistance Network (CLEAN), National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS), National Crime Information Center (NCIC), and the Commercial Driver License Information System (CDLIS). In addition to the queries made during a commercial vehicle inspection, police officers across the Commonwealth

make similar inquiries on CDLs of commercial vehicle drivers who are stopped for traffic violations or when they are involved in a traffic crash.

Once the computer checks of the driver's CDL are made, motor carrier inspectors and police officers also use information from the CDL to determine whether the driver has the proper license class and commercial endorsements for the commercial vehicle they are driving, as well as determine if the driver is in compliance with any commercial or medical restrictions listed on the CDL.

Commercial vehicle drivers who do not have a valid CDL for the vehicle being driven, or who are in violation of commercial or medical restrictions, are cited under the appropriate sections of Chapter 16 of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code and are placed out of service until the issue is resolved.

Once again, I would like to thank the committee for inviting the PSP here to speak on this matter. We will now be happy to take any questions you may have.