
Volunteer Monitor Program Report

The Volunteer Monitor (VM) Program is a joint initiative between ARRL and the FCC to enhance compliance in the Amateur Radio Service. This is the December 2023 activity report of the VM Program.

◆ An advisory notice was sent to an operator in Florida for abuse of the GreenCube satellite operating on 435.310 MHz, and the operator was reminded that all frequencies are shared under FCC rules.

◆ An advisory notice was issued to an operator in California for deliberate interference on 28.425 MHz, and to an operator in Kentucky for operation on DSB with a bandwidth of 14 kHz for the purpose of interfering with existing communications. The Kentucky operator, as well as an operator in Georgia using 3.965 MHz with a 10 kHz bandwidth, were advised that Section 97.307(a) of Commission rules states that no station shall occupy more bandwidth than necessary for the information rate and emission being transmitted. Both operators were informed that FCC forfeitures for such operation normally start at \$7,000.

◆ An advisory notice was sent to an operator in Missouri for lengthy transmissions up to 45 minutes without identification, and the operator was reminded that Rule 97.119(a) requires

station identification at the end of transmissions and every 10 minutes during transmissions.

◆ Technician-class operators in Texas, Maryland, and Michigan were sent advisory notices concerning FT8 operation on 7.074 MHz. Technicians have no data privileges on 40 meters, but are allowed to operate CW. A Technician-class licensee in Illinois was issued an advisory notice for FT8 operation on 20 meters. Technicians have no privileges on that band.

◆ A Technician-class licensee in Michigan received an advisory notice for FT8 operation on 15 meters. Technicians have only CW privileges on that band.

◆ An advisory notice was issued to an operator in Texas for operation on 17 meters and claiming in a net check-in that he held General-class privileges. The matter was reported to the FCC.

◆ A repeater user in Illinois was informed that the request to stay off the repeater operated by the Six Meter Club of Chicago would be enforced by the FCC.

The totals for November monitoring were 2,124 hours on HF frequencies, and 2,817 hours on VHF frequencies and above, for a total of 4,941 hours. — *Thanks to Volunteer Monitor Program Administrator Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH*