

DIVISION OF STATE PATROL INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

NUMBER 5-98

**MANUAL SECTION: 8
MOTOR CARRIER
ENFORCEMENT AND
INSPECTION**

TOPIC: School Bus Lettering

BACKGROUND: State Patrol inspectors perform pre-sale and annual inspections on all school buses registered in Wisconsin. They check for compliance with the requirements found in Trans 300. One of the inspection items checked is the school bus lettering. It has been brought to our attention that some of the operating school buses do not meet the lettering size requirement. In some cases the lettering is a fraction of an inch shy of the required size. We have been informed that some inspectors have been noting this as a violation during the annual inspection. Many of these buses have been operating in this manner for years without any mention being made of the lettering size. These buses passed their pre-sale inspection.

DECISION: If the lettering on the school bus passed the original pre-sale inspection and that lettering has not been modified to be made smaller, the lettering size will continue to pass inspection. If the lettering is determined to be in violation of the size requirement during a pre-sale inspection or the unit has been re-lettered since the pre-sale inspection and the letters are not of proper dimensions, then the violation will be noted and corrections will have be made by the carrier or manufacturer.

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