

**DEPARTMENT TRAFFIC COORDINATOR  
TRANSIT SERVICES BUREAU**

**NOTICE**  
8.1

November 25, 2024

**TO:** All Department Personnel

**FROM:** Department Traffic Coordinator, Transit Services Bureau

**SUBJECT:** EVENT DATA RECORDER: REMINDER AND UPDATES

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Notice is to remind Department employees of the Event Data Recorder (EDR) inside of vehicles and update the procedures necessary to request an EDR download. As a reminder, the Multi-Disciplinary Collision Investigation Team (MCIT) is the only Department entity authorized to conduct and analyze an EDR download.

**BACKGROUND**

On August 29, 2008, a Department Traffic Coordinator Notice was published that provided an overview of the EDR and guidelines for requesting a download. As vehicles become more technologically advanced, the safety systems inside vehicles have changed significantly to improve passenger safety. Depending on the vehicle, certain information before a crash can be captured and retrieved from the vehicle.

The term EDR is generic for any device that records information about particular events. The two types of events that can be recorded are Non-Deployment and Deployment of the vehicle's safety system. A Non-Deployment event occurs when there is sufficient acceleration in the vehicle to enable or activate the module that deploys the safety systems in the vehicle but is insufficient to warrant an actual deployment. A Deployment event occurs when there is sufficient acceleration of the vehicle to enable and deploy one or more of the safety systems.

Each vehicle that is equipped with airbags has an Airbag Control Module (ACM). The ACM is the name for the electronic module that controls the function of the safety and restrain systems in the vehicle. The primary function of the ACM is occupant safety. It monitors the vehicle's status, checks the safety systems and determines when the vehicle is experiencing an event that meets airbag deployment criteria. When this occurs, the ACM deploys the airbags and seatbelt pre-tensioners in a timely manner.

The EDR information can be found in the Power Control Module (PCM) and/or the ACM of the vehicle. This recorded data can be assessed and downloaded with a Crash Data Retrieval (CDR) System such as the Bosch Crash Data Retrieval (CDR) System, GIT Hyundai or Kia EDR tool kit, or Tesla EDR kit. These downloads can only be done by a certified CDR Technician and the results can only be interpreted by a certified CDR analyst.

Download requests may be made for vehicles involved in traffic crashes, or when a crime has been committed involving a vehicle that may have stored data. On all non-Department vehicles, the requestor may be required to obtain a search warrant or consent prior to downloading information. All download requests shall be referred to and coordinated by MCIT, Traffic Coordination Section, Traffic Group.

**PROCEDURE**

When it is anticipated that an EDR download will be requested, the following procedures shall be followed:

- Turn the vehicle off and remove the keys or disconnect the battery cable(s);
- **Secure the vehicle's ignition key; it must stay with the vehicle. Do not turn the ignition to the "on" position or "start" the vehicle;**
- Non-City vehicles shall be impounded and placed on hold for MCIT. Officers shall use Section 22655.5 of the California Vehicle Code (CVC) and indicate "Hold for Evidence" on the top of the Impound Report. The impounded vehicle shall be towed to the evidence area of the concerned Official Police Garage;
- When a vehicle is impounded under Section 22655.5 CVC, the concerned traffic commands shall immediately notify MCIT to coordinate a download to reduce impound storage fees;
- Department vehicles, if drivable, shall be towed to their assigned division and stored in a secure area with a "Hold for MCIT" and the division's mechanic staff notified. If the vehicle is not drivable, the vehicle shall be towed to Motor Transport Division and stored in a secure area with a "Hold for MCIT";
- Contact MCIT personnel at (213) 486-0690 for guidance regarding a possible EDR download;
- If a download is possible, submit an Intradepartmental Correspondence, Form 15.02.00, requesting an EDR download and email to [MCIT@LAPD.online](mailto:MCIT@LAPD.online); and,
- Ensure copies of all reports associated with the vehicle are included with the request.

If you have any questions, contact Traffic Coordination Section, Traffic Group, at (213) 486-0690.



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Transit Services Bureau

APPROVED:



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