



CRYSTAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

TITLE: MOBILE DATA COMPUTER USE
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PURPOSE

The Mobile Data Computer (MDC) accesses confidential records from the State of Minnesota, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) databases. Employees using the MDC shall comply with all appropriate federal and state rules and regulations.

MDC USE

The MDC shall be used for official police communications only. Messages that are of a sexual, racist, or offensive nature or are otherwise critical of any member of the department are strictly forbidden. MDC use is also subject to the City Technology Use Policy.

Messages may be reviewed at any time without prior notification. Employees generating or transmitting messages not in compliance with this policy are subject to discipline.

USE WHILE DRIVING

Use of the MDC by the vehicle operator should generally be limited to times when the vehicle is stopped. When the vehicle is in motion, the operator should only attempt to read messages that are likely to contain information that is required for immediate enforcement, investigative, or safety needs.

Short transmissions, such as a license plate check, are permitted if it reasonably appears that it can be done safely. In no case shall an operator attempt to send or review lengthy messages while the vehicle is in motion.

MDC CONSIDERATIONS

Whenever reasonably possible, officers will not use squad cars with malfunctioning MDC's. Whenever officers must drive a squad car in which the MDC is not working, they shall notify their supervisor and dispatch.