

The Consolidated Weights and Measures Act Report to the Pennsylvania General Assembly Title 3 Pa C.S.A. Chapter 41, Title 70

March 2015

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# **Overview**

The Division of Weights and Measures, part of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Ride and Measurement Standards, was created to help ensure equity in the marketplace through laws and regulations, uniform inspection and testing procedures, and certified and knowledgeable inspectors.

The division is empowered through the Consolidated Weights and Measures Act, Title 3 Pa C.S.A. Chapter 41, with additional regulations found in Title 70. The act requires the department to describe all relevant activities of the state inspectors of weights and measures, certified examiners of weights and measures, and city and county sealers of weights and measures for the preceding calendar year.

The division is required to inspect weighing and measuring devices on a set schedule: either an annual inspection or at some greater interval not to exceed every fifth year, depending on the device. The division conducts these inspections through its regionally-assigned inspectors and supervisors and Certified Examiners of Weights and Measures. These inspectors and supervisors work with the remaining county and city sealers who conduct weights and measures activities in their respective jurisdictions through an ongoing Memorandum of Understanding with the department.

Included in the appendix of this report are the spreadsheets outlining the activities of the division's personnel, county and city sealers, and Certified Examiners of Weights and Measures for 2014. The appendix also includes a map which identifies the seven regions the division is broken into, the supervisors responsible for each region, and the existing county and city sealer programs with their contact information.

# **Consumer Education and Outreach**

As part of the commonwealth's transparency efforts, the division continues to use its online inspection database that allows consumers to access inspection reports. This application can be found <a href="https://www.pda.state.pa.us/WMInspections">www.pda.state.pa.us/WMInspections</a>. Visit the database to see the latest inspection reports for local businesses and devices.



The website also includes an online complaint form that consumers can use to alert the department to potentially inaccurate devices. The number of consumer complaints by location is included as part of the report spreadsheets in the appendix.

The "Tested and Approved" and "Rejected" seals placed on each item that is inspected by the department feature the state's toll-free number, 1-877-TEST-007,



which consumers can use to register complaints or concerns about scales, gas pumps and other state-regulated measuring devices. The red rejected seal serves as a warning to consumers that the device it is affixed to is in need of service or repair. These seals indicate a pending issue and that the department is working with the device owner to correct it. In many cases a device with a rejected seal may still be in service if the issue is a repair that does not affect the accuracy of the device or if the accuracy of the device is in

the consumer's favor. Devices found to be out of operational condition or beyond the acceptable tolerance levels and detrimental to the consumer are immediately taken out of service (made unusable by the consumer) until such time as repairs are made and the device is found to be operating within allowable tolerances.

# Weights and Measures Inspections

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Division of Weights and Measures is responsible for inspecting devices such as scales – ranging from small-retail to large-capacity truck scales, truck-mounted fuel meters, liquid propane gas meters, retail fuel pumps, compressed natural gas meters, grain moisture meters, load rack meters, timing devices (except parking meters) and all consumer scanning systems (UPC/PLU).

# Inspection Details

The division inspects all devices in 54 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties and provides support to the remaining 13 county sealer and two city sealer programs. The division is also responsible for ensuring consumer questions and concerns are addressed in a timely manner.

## **Enforcement Actions**

The state, through Act 155 of 1996, adopts many of the federal standards created by the National Institute of Standards and Technology as found in its Handbook 44, Handbook 130 and other related publications. As devices and systems are found to be faulty or beyond the acceptable tolerance levels, action is taken to formally acknowledge the concerns of the state and bring the device into compliance. Written warnings are the first step in acknowledging an issue with a device or with a business/vendor. The number of warnings, citations and prosecutions are included as part of the report spreadsheets in the appendix.

# Certified Examiner of Weights and Measures Program

Act 155 of 1996 amended PA C.S.A. Chapter 41, § 4110 (a)(4) and authorizes the department to use private industry professionals who have been trained and certified to conduct field level inspections on behalf of the department. With this use of department trained, tested and certified professionals, the role of the weights and measures division personnel moves to serve as the quality control auditors who monitor this program's implementation and provide the final assurances that the law is being upheld and that the certified examiners are protecting the consumers they represent.

The CEWM program applies only to devices under the direct responsibility of the department to inspect. Understanding the need to monitor these inspections, the department is diligent in its duty to conduct random and thorough inspections and audits of all CEWM program inspections, as mandated.

# Certified UPC/PLU Inspector Program

In line with the Consolidated Weights and Measures Act, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Division of Weights and Measures developed a Certified Universal Product Code (UPC) and Price Look-Up (PLU) Inspector Program. Scanning systems and devices are inspected annually by the division or private business, as allowed by the act. PLU/UPC device inspectors complete a training course conducted by the division every three years.



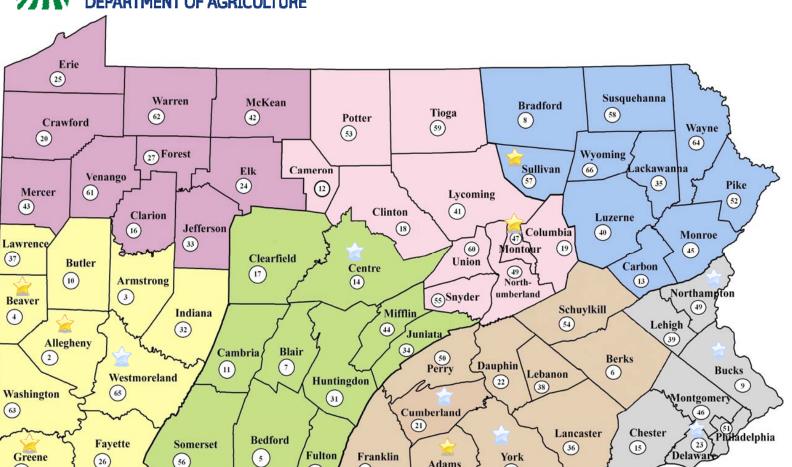
			SCA	IFS											METER	ıs.				T		PKG CHECK	TOTAL DEVICES INSPECTED	CONSUMER	EN	PROSECUTIONS & FINES
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Badge Id	Small	Reject	Medium		Large	Reject	Tested	Reject	Tested	Reject	Tested	Reject	Tested	Reject	Tested		Tested F	Reject	Tested Reject	Systems	T T	Tested Reject	101 N	8 8	* §	PROS
Badge 11 Badge 13 Badge 14 Badge 15 Badge 20 Badge 21 Badge 21 Badge 22 Badge 23 Badge 33 Badge 31 Badge 32 Badge 33 Badge 34 Badge 40 Badge 42 Badge 42 Badge 45 Badge 50 Badge 51 Badge 52 Badge 53 Badge 66 Badge 67 Badge 67 Badge 67 Badge 67 Badge 67 Badge 77 Badge 77 Badge 78 Badge 79 Total CEWM Inspections	268 397 681 977 390 179 813 278 97 1,524 231 964 691 155 1,063 785 598 460 331 697 1,280 332 870 1,734 1,335 1,867 701 56 1,481 144 1,030 1,475 1,760 1,837 364 1,961 614	466 4 4 255 1011 144 8 8 32 3 3 4 4 666 612 111 7 7 79 49 21 119 9 9 12 21 50 62 481 32 2 2 2 2 18 173 7 7 78 2,149	5 11 1 1 1 6 6 0 0 11 34 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 5 3 1 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 1 0 0 0 0 0 15 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	18 44 7 1 3 1 0 180 0 0 146 0 0 90 7 0 108 5 19 319 319 43 0 0 0 0 481 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	13 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	15 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	612 664 1,778 81 1,747 81 1,631 811 632 2,472 622 2,730 929 65 2,443 900 331 441 575 1,185 3,043 251 988 2,291 2,629 1,604 0 1,941 24 1,190 2,063 0 0 0 1,370 2,063 0 1,370 1,370 2,063 0 1,180 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370	147 49 3666 242 4 109 88 42 59 213 62 189 97 6 553 1822 56 44 41 81 128 304 43 570 125 0 232 0 294 197 198 199 199 199 199 199 199 199	0 209 0 0 0 31 1 0 0 0 293 0 0 3 2 160 0 0 1 1 416 0 0 1 1 0 0 236 5 121 0 0 180 0 0 131 0 0 159 0 0 198 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	36 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 18 0 0 0 2 36 0 0 0 58 0 0 0 13 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 67 0 0 0 0 291 6 6 0 0 0 5 0 0 0 291 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 13 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	22	35 19 25 18 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	942 1,112 2,696 2,741 502 1,874 1,702 1,337 737 4,020 1,064 3,995 2,778 350 3,517 1,916 1,054 936 1,362 2,261 4,546 652 2,130 4,596 3,775 4,742 2,638 8,49 3,714 168 2,382 3,212 3,329 3,903 885 4,848 4,848 4,744 85,059	3 3 3 3 1 1 8 8 14 11 1 13 10 1 14 7 6 6 8 8 3 10 10 11 11 14 2 1 16 15 15 15 15 11 12 2 2 2 0 13 13 2 0 2 3 3 6 7	16 1 1 2 14 1 1 0 4 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 1 3 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
LPG - 398 LPG - 402 LPG - 406 LPG - 407 LPG - 408 LPG - 432 LPG - 436 LPG - 437															10 77 67 2 75 58 2	0 10 12 0 6 9							10 77 67 2 75 58 2			
Total Statewide Totals	49,538	2,807	1,122	160	1,763	289	697	100	12,657	7 849	79,790	8,552	2,600	390	318 <b>983</b>	43 <b>175</b>	4	1	269 32	3,397	174	827 136	318 <b>153,647</b>	741	144	44



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	0 to 1,000		1,001-10,000		10,001 +						FDM		VTM		LPG		LRM		GMM		VERIFICATION	L	OTS	TAL	CONSUMER COMPLAINTS	WRITTEN WARNINGS	PROSECUTION & FINES
State Bureau	Small	Reject	Medium	Reject	Large	Reject	Tested	Reject	Tested	Reject	Tested	Reject	Tested	Reject	Tested	Reject	Tested	Reject	Tested	Reject	System Rejec	t Tested	Reject	5 -	0 5		g.
Region 1	2,323	176	22	1	70	21	25	12	0	0	4,801	804	218	37	10	2	0	0	22	4	0	0 0	0	7,491	18	33	5
Region 2	1,660	57	51	2	184	23	0	0	0	0	3,340	243	31	2	67	7	0	0	50	1	32	0 0	0	5,415	15	4	0
Region 3	3,507	115	53	15	146	40	35	2	0	0	7,385	620	294	18	292	91	4	1	5	0	138	2 735	119	12,594	62	6	6
Region 4	2,601	156	38	4	205	24	0	0	0	0	3,739	792	165	38	74	13	0	0	15	0	0	0 0	0	6,837	24	16	5
Region 5	2,768	91	112	9	386	49	58	23	0	0	5,244	446	418	58	84	6	0	0	31	2	4	0 0	0	9,105	19	6	1
Region 6	6,509	227	370	35	482	76	2	0	77	23	9,913	1,360	673	103	124	10	0	0	124	22	80	0 0	0	18,354	86	23	15
Region 7	11,052	1,327	433	91	290	56	9	2	594	4	12,458	2,396	357	110	14	3	0	0	22	3	18	1 16	5 1	25,263	143	14	
Total	30,420	2,149	1,079	157	1,763	289	129	39	671	27	46,880	6,661	2,156	366	665	132	4	1	269	32	272	3 751	120	85,059	367	102	35
Counties / Cities																											
Adams	1,054	89	7	0			0	0	0	0	1,026	158	0	0							0	0 0	0	2,087	23	0	0
Allegheny	4,185	64	0	0			5	0	2,955	163	10,854	519	0	0							1,312	6 3	0	19,314	99	6	1
Beaver	676	14	22	0			38	0	37	0	1,296	62	0	0							64	0 0	0	2,133	53	0	0
Bucks	3,077	57	1	0			422	58	1,571	71	2,787	93	257	12							798 5	7 (	0	8,913	86	2	1
Centre	572	17	0	0			0	0	100	15	929	83	0	0							102	0 0	0	1,703	0	0	0
City of Meadville	45	2	0	0			0	0	346	26	34	0	0	0							0	0 0	0	425	0	0	0
City of Scranton	394	24	0	0			37	0	30	0	358	40	0	0							0	0 0	0	819	22	10	0
Cumberland	1,054	41	9	3			1	1	0	0	3,066	132	0	0							0	0 0	0	4,130	40	1	0
Delaware	2,503	98	0	0			0	0	3,707	110	1,530	237	156	8							638 3	4 73	16	8,607	16	17	0
Greene	180	5	0	0			0	0	0	0	194	16	0	0							0	0 0	0	374	2	0	0
Montour	88	1	0	0			0	0	13	3	234	10	0	0							10	0 0	0	345	0	0	0
Northampton	1,855	32	3	0			16	0	663	12	2,199		31	4							0	0 0	0	4,767	9	0	0
Northumberland	533	12	0	0			7	0	400	0	289	3	0	0							0	0 0	0	1,229	3	0	0
Sullivan	44	3	0	0			0	0	0	0	146	24	0	0							0	0 0	0	190	0	0	0
Westmoreland	789	115	1	0			42	2	2,164	422	3,944	395	0	0							201 1	4 (	0	7,141	7	6	7
York	2,069	84	0	0			0	0	0	0	4,024	84	0	0							0	0 0	0	6,093	14	0	0
Total	19,118	658	43	3	0	0	568	61	11,986	822	32,910	1,891	444	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,125 17	1 76	16	68,270	374	42	9

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