



Florida Highway Patrol Policy Manual

SUBJECT USE OF TINT METERS (Light Transmittance Measuring Devices)	POLICY NUMBER 17.27	ISSUE DATE 07/18/2012
	TOTAL PAGES 3	REVISION DATE 06/16/2021

17.27.01 PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for the use of tint meters by members of the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP).

17.27.02 AUTHORITY

316.2955, Florida Statutes - Motor vehicle window sunscreening material, labeling, tolerances

Rules 15B-14.001 and 15B-14.002, Florida Administrative Code (FAC)

17.27.03 DEFINITIONS

TINT METER – A tint meter is a device used to determine the level of tint or darkness. It is most commonly used by members of the FHP to determine if tint on vehicular glass meets acceptable levels established by Florida Statute.

17.27.04 PROCEDURES

- A. Members will comply with the following FAC rules for use of tint meters:
1. Tint meters used by members shall comply with FAC rules under Chapter 15B-14, FAC, and shall be approved by the Division. No other tint meter is authorized for member use.
 2. Each tint meter shall have its own reference sample to verify the meter's accuracy.
 3. Reference samples shall be replaced at least once per year by a qualified laboratory.

4. Tint meters shall maintain unit accuracy within plus or minus three percentage points of reference sample(s) and shall have a repeatability within plus or minus one percentage point from reading to reading.
- B. Guidelines for using tint meter devices by members of the FHP:
1. Traffic stops based on a violation of sections 316.2951 to 316.2954, Florida Statutes, shall be based on reasonable suspicion.
 2. When a member is conducting a traffic stop for a violation of Florida Statutes, the member may utilize the tint meter to ascertain whether the tinting on the vehicle is in compliance with Florida law (to prove evidence of a secondary offense).
 3. The tint meter **shall** be tested for accuracy prior to use each day the tint meter will be used, and such testing shall be performed in compliance with the manufacturer's directions, guidelines, and recommendations. Members shall utilize the Light Transmittance Measuring Device (Tint Meter) Test Log (HSMV 61037) to document the accuracy tests performed on the tint meter.
 4. Individual tint meters **shall** be maintained and operated according to the manufacturer's directions, guidelines, and recommendations.
 5. Members shall ensure the area of the window to be tested is clean and free of scratches and debris. If necessary, the member should clean the area to be tested (e.g., wipe the area with a soft cloth to remove dust, etc.).
 6. If there is a violation of sections 316.2951 to 316.2954, Florida Statutes, the member will take appropriate action per FHP Policy 17.06.06(B)(8) Enforcement Policy.
 7. Members will document in the officer notes or comments section of the traffic citation important information for later use in court, such as the tint meter display reading for the violation cited. The member should ensure the tint meter serial number and any accuracy test(s) performed are documented in the Tint Meter Test Log. Members

may enter the tint meter into the Speed Device Log Configuration under the Officer Profile in Mobile Forms.