


# FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL POLICY MANUAL

	<b>SUBJECT</b> USE OF TINT METERS  (Light Transmittance Measuring Devices)	<b>POLICY NUMBER</b> 17.27
		<b>ISSUE DATE</b> 07/18/12
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		<b>TOTAL PAGES</b> 2

**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 & 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. Only tint meters issued by the Division will be permitted for members’ use by the FHP.

**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 meet FAC rules under 15B-14, 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 316.2951-316.2954, Florida Statutes, shall be based on reasonable suspicion.
  2. When a member is conducting a traffic stop for a violation of Florida Statute, 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. Tint meters **shall** be tested for accuracy at the beginning and the end of each shift 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 at the beginning and end of each shift.
  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. If necessary, the member should clean the area to be tested (i.e., wipe the area with a soft cloth to remove dust, etc.).
  6. If there is a violation of 316.2951-316.2954, Florida Statutes, take appropriate action per FHP policy on traffic enforcement. If there are multiple window tint violations, write the one violation which can be best proven in court by the available evidence.
  7. Document in the officer notes section of the traffic citation, or comments section, important information for later use in court, such as the tint meter display reading for the violation cited. The tint meter serial number and any accuracy test/s performed will already be included on the Tint Meter Test Log. Members may enter the tint meter into the Speed Device Log Configuration under the Officer Profile in Mobile Forms.