State of New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety Office of Weights and Measures

Rob Spiegel & John McGuire Enforcement Division

State Weights and Measures Office Composition and Responsibilities

Metrology and Licensing Section:

- Maintains State Standards in weight, volume, length and time.

 (Lottery Balls)
- Tests/inspects and certifies all commercially used weighing and measuring devices used by law enforcement departments.
- Tests/inspects and certifies all weighing and measuring equipment used by licensed mechanics/repairers.
- Maintains traceability to the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg Maryland.

State Weights and Measures Office Composition and Responsibilities

Technical Services Section:

- Tests large capacity weighing and measuring devices such as truck and hopper scales.
- Law Enforcement wheel load weighers / portable scales
- Tests large capacity loading rack and vehicle tank meters.
- Tests large capacity LPG meters and filing stations

Unit Pricing Section:

Inspects packages in supermarkets for proper unit price markings and requirements.

State Weights and Measures Office Composition and Responsibilities

Law Enforcement Section:

- General Supervision over Counties as directed by the State Superintendent.
- Fair Packaging and Label Act and net content inspections in supermarkets and commercial establishments
- Price verification in retail establishments
- Precious Metals
- Gasoline inspections and investigations
- Octane sampling and comingling investigations
- Phase separation
- Firewood / Lumber
- Special Investigations

County and Municipal Weights and Measures Departments

- County Weights and Measures Departments:
- 21 Offices throughout the state.
- Municipal Weights and Measures Departments:
- 11 offices located in the following cities:

Atlantic City

Camden

East Orange

Elizabeth

Hamilton Twp.

Jersey City

Linden

Newark

Nutley Twp.

Paterson

Trenton

Training

All Weights and Measures officers must successfully pass a training course in the laws, regulations and technical requirements for the testing and inspecting of devices, conducted under the direction of the State Superintendent. Included in this course is a Retail Motor Fuel Dispenser class that is specifically designed to teach uniformity in the testing process as developed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

- Statutorily, all commercially used devices must be tested and registered at least once a year.
- County and Municipal Weights and Measures
 Departments are required to test and inspect
 fuel pump dispensers at least once a year.
- State Weights and Measures personnel conduct investigations and perform fuel pump testing under the direction of the State Superintendent of Weights and Measures

What needs to be provided by the station owner to make the Weights and Measures inspection go as smoothly as possible?

- The Registration Certificate for the current year.
- The last inspection certificate.
- Retail Motor Fuel License
- Pump skirts opened by the attendant.
- The stations 5-Gallon Test Measure.
- Color code key for the return of product back into the proper storage tank.

What will be done during a routine Weights and Measures inspection?

- Test drafts (2) of each product will be taken to determine meter accuracy and returned to storage tanks.
- Associated forms and certificates will be inspected.
- Adjusting elements of all meters will be inspected and new lead and wire seals will be applied.
- Dispensers and signs will be checked to ensure all specifications and rules/regulations are being met.

The Weights and Measures Inspectors want to complete the test and inspection in a safe and expedient manner. This may require that the owner/attendant work with the inspector to redirect station traffic while the test is taking place.

Again, the key word is safe.

Why Do You Need a 5-Gallon Test Measure?

For the purpose of making tests to ascertain whether a device is delivering the correct quantity.

Statutorily, it is to be used to test a pump before the next sale of gasoline if the system loses its prime or malfunctions.

What If The Pump Is Giving Away Fuel?

- For a sale of 100,000 gallons, if the pump is giving away 6 cubic inches* for every 5 gallons sold, the station gave away 519 gallons.
- By checking your pumps regularly, the cost savings are huge if a problem is detected early.
 - *231 cubic inches in a gallon.

 Weights and Measures NIST maintenance tolerance +/- 6 cubic inches.

Special Investigations

- The following types of complaints involving gasoline retailers fall under the jurisdiction of the Office of Weights and Measures but are not limited to:
 - Delivering less motor fuel than represented.
 - Price sign/dispenser not in agreement.
 - Octane misrepresentation issues (comingling)
 - Credit card inaccuracies/discrepancies.
 - Water/contaminants in motor fuel (Phase Separation).
 - Cash / Credit pricing
 - Price changes more than once in 24 hours.
 - Below cost selling
 - Credit card skimming

Trivia:









Contact Information

New Jersey State Office of Weights and Measures

1261 Route 1 & 9

Avenel, NJ 07001

732-815-7800 - Main Line

732-815-7816 - Enforcement Section