

July 2023 activity report of the ARRL VM Program

The Volunteer Monitor (VM) Program is a joint initiative between the ARRL and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to enhance compliance in the Amateur Radio Service.

- Advisory Notices were issued to Technician operators in Pennsylvania and Colorado for FT8 operation on 20 and 17 Meters. Technicians have no data privileges on those bands.
- An Advisory Notice was issued to an operator in Florida for obscenities and deliberate interference on 7.205 MHz, and to an operator in West Virginia for operation on five dates consisting of interference and improperly wide signals. The operator was reminded that FCC rule 97.307(a) requires that no amateur station use more bandwidth than necessary for the information rate and emission type being transmitted.
- An Operator in Massachusetts received an Advisory Notice for operation too close to the band edge (14.100.1 MHz), resulting in out of band operation.
- An operator in California received an Advisory Notice for deliberate interference and “holding” a frequency on 20 Meters.
- The case of a Technician licensee in Tennessee continually ignoring Advisory Notices about FT8 operation on non-Technician frequencies is in preparation for FCC referral, which may include forfeiture (fine) or license revocation.
- Good Operator Commendations were issued to operators in Texas and Indiana for exemplary operation and assistance to new licensees on 7.188 MHz; and to an operator in Arkansas for displaying exceptional skills and courtesy during his June VOTA activation.

The totals for VM monitoring during July 2023 were: 2,159 hours on HF frequencies, and 2,651 hours on VHF frequencies and above, for a total of 4,810 hours.

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, Administrator

Volunteer Monitor Program