

FMCSA outlines return-to-duty status for ELD out-of-service violations

| March 15, 2018

Enforcers will begin issuing out-of-service orders on April 1 to drivers who are found in violation of the U.S. DOT's [electronic logging device mandate](#). And in a media update this week, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration briefly detailed what the out-of-service and return-to-duty status procedures will be once hard enforcement of the mandate begins. Truckers were required to begin using an ELD by December 18, 2017, to record their duty status. However, the [Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance](#), which manages truck enforcement procedures, announced last year it wouldn't begin issuing out-of-service orders until April 1. FMCSA also said late last year it wouldn't ding carriers' Compliance, Safety, Accountability scores for ELD violations in that time period, either.

In two weeks, however, truckers cited for ELD non-compliance will be placed out of service for 10 hours. "Just the same as a driver who previously didn't have a paper log," said Joe DeLorenzo, FMCSA's head of compliance and enforcement. "Once that 10-hour period is up, assuming the driver has at least a paper log, we're going to provide flexibility for that driver to proceed to their final destination and deliver their load."

[New CVSA bulletin outlines procedures for checking ELDs at roadside](#)

[The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance, the partnership of law enforcement and truck- and bus-industry representatives across North America, has added an inspection bulletin outlining officer ...](#)

Delorenzo said, after returning to duty, the driver must "be compliant with the ELD rule before being dispatched on their next trip."

Since December 18, inspectors have been noting [ELD violations](#) on inspection reports, says Delorenzo, despite the soft enforcement period. "Of all inspections," he says, "only four percent [of inspected drivers] have been cited for not having an ELD when required to."

The agency's media update on Tuesday mostly centered on the agency's announcement that livestock and ag haulers now have until June 18 to adopt an ELD. In the meantime, they can continue to run on paper logs.

- from an article by James Jaillet @trucknewsJJ