



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

## PRE-EMPLOYMENT SCREENING PROGRAM



# PSP AND MVR: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) PSP report and a state motor vehicle record (MVR) offer different information. Both are important sources of data to consider when hiring a commercial driver. Let's look at the differences.

## THE PSP REPORT

- Crash and roadside inspection data are submitted to FMCSA and stored in the Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS). PSP reports consist of commercial motor vehicle driver information from this database.
- A PSP report displays a drivers' 5-year crash history and 3-year roadside inspection history, including all serious safety violations that are cited during an inspection.
- Conviction information is not included in a PSP report.
- A PSP report will show the original violation when a citation has been adjudicated and has resulted in a conviction of a different charge.
- When requesting a PSP record, motor carriers should submit each CDL number a driver has held in the last 5 years.

## THE MVR

- States, are responsible for maintaining motor vehicle convictions known as MVRs.
- Conviction data is posted periodically to an MVR, depending on each state's unique process.
- An MVR includes information related only to the drivers' license issued by a particular state and includes data for any type of vehicle, including personal vehicles.
- An MVR displays only a drivers' conviction data.

## WHY ARE THE REPORTS DIFFERENT?

- An MVR shows what a driver has been convicted of by a state court.
- Citations, warnings and tickets yet to be settled in court will not appear on an MVR.
- A PSP report includes violations collected at the roadside inspection or crash, which is sent to MCMIS, the federal database.
- The PSP report does not include citations, warnings or tickets.
- An MVR does not include violations from a roadside inspection or crash, unless the violation results in a conviction.
- A drivers' PSP report will show violations regardless of whether a conviction results.
- Should charges have been dismissed after adjudication and the driver has requested a data review through DataQs, violations on a PSP report will be removed.
- A PSP report and MVR may not match because a citation, warning, or ticket can be reduced by a state court.
- If an adjudicated violation results in a conviction of a different charge and the driver has requested a data review through DataQs, the PSP report will have that notation under the original violation.
- State agencies are responsible for MVRs. FMCSA is responsible for the PSP report. The two records are not linked.

Motor carriers can access an MVR by contacting the motor vehicle division in the license-issuing state.

Motor carriers can access PSP records by enrolling in the PSP service.  
Visit: [www.psp.fmcsa.dot.gov/Enroll](http://www.psp.fmcsa.dot.gov/Enroll)



## CHECK OUT PSP RECORDS TODAY:

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