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# Volunteer Monitor Program Report

The Volunteer Monitor (VM) Program is a joint initiative between ARRL and the FCC to enhance compliance in the Amateur Radio Service. This is the January 2025 activity report of the VM Program.

A commendation was issued to an operator in Indiana for exceptional CW operation, and to an operator in Michigan for exceptional courtesy in choosing a frequency for net operation during crowded band conditions. A commendation was issued to an operator in New Jersey for exceptional operation as net control of a net meeting daily on 7.255 MHz.

A Technician-class operator in Texas received an advisory for FT8 operation on 20 meters. Technicians have no privileges on 20 meters. A Technician-class operator in New York received an advisory for FT8 operation on 15 meters, a band on which there are no Technician privileges. A Delaware Technician-class operator received an advisory for FT8 operation on 12 meters, which allows no Technician operation.

An operator in California received a second advisory regarding operation with an expired license.

An operator in Tennessee received an advisory for operation on 7.200 MHz with a signal that extended from 7.194 to 7.205 MHz. Section 97.307(a) of the

Commission's rules states, "No amateur station transmission shall occupy more bandwidth than necessary for the information rate and emission type being transmitted, in accordance with good amateur practice."

Operators in Florida and New Jersey received advisories for lengthy periods of operation with no identification. Section 97.119(a) requires amateur stations to transmit the assigned call sign at the end of each communication and at least every 10 minutes during a communication.

Operators in Louisiana and Arizona received advisories for operation with expired licenses.

There was one FCC meeting and three case referrals from the FCC for monitoring.

The totals for December 2024 monitoring were 1,896 hours on HF frequencies, and 2,302 hours on VHF frequencies and above, for a total of 4,198 hours.

For the year 2024, Volunteer Monitors reported 21,331 hours of monitoring on HF frequencies, and 27,545 hours on VHF frequencies and above, for a total of 48,876 hours for the year. — *Thanks to Volunteer Monitor Program Administrator Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH*

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## This Month in

QEX magazine is a forum for the free exchange of ideas among communications experimenters. All ARRL members can access the digital edition of QEX as a member benefit ([www.arrl.org/magazines](http://www.arrl.org/magazines)). Print subscriptions are available and sold separately; see [www.arrl.org/qex](http://www.arrl.org/qex).

Coming up in the March/April 2025 issue of QEX:

■ John Stanley, K4ERO, gives examples of NVIS antennas with description and gain figures.

■ Anthony LeCren, F4GOH/KF4GOH, explains how Computer Science and Networks high school students programmed an HF SSTV transmitter to send images from a high-altitude balloon.

■ George R. Steber, WB9LVI, describes a new version of the classic RF preselector that improves the front-end selectivity of your shortwave receiver.

■ Mario Lechasseur, VE2KEC, presents an Arduino-based control unit that simplifies band and mode changes on the FT-891.

■ In his essay series, Eric Nichols, KL7AJ, discusses measuring components with a VNA.

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