



County of San Diego

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AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/
SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES

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TAXIMETER INSPECTION - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

➤ **What is a Notice of Violation?**

The notice documents that a violation of State laws has occurred. A Notice of Violation is issued to the taximeter owner for not maintaining the taximeter within established tolerances. Over-registration means that the taximeter registers a greater distance than what was actually traveled and results in the consumer being overcharged. It may seem like a small amount per mile, but think of the average number of miles your passenger travels, and the number of passengers you have each day. It adds up. Under-registration means that the taximeter registers a shorter distance than what was actually traveled and the taximeter owner loses money.

➤ **What should I do if I receive a Notice of Violation?**

When you receive a Notice of Violation, read the entire notice carefully and ask your Inspector if you have any questions about the violation. Notify the taximeter owner right away to have violations corrected within 30 days before taximeter can be placed back in service.

➤ **What happens after I have received a Notice of Violation?**

A re-inspection will be conducted within 30 days to ensure meter accuracy returning to compliance. For violations of over-registration, we may issue the taximeter owner a notice explaining proposed civil penalties and the right to an administrative hearing within 60 days. Administrative civil penalties range on average from \$150 to \$350 per violation. Repeated violations within a two-year period may increase the penalty up to \$1,000 per violation.

➤ **How do I prevent future violations?**

The taximeter owner is responsible for maintaining the accuracy of the taximeter being used. A licensed service agent can verify the accuracy of the meter as part of the regular maintenance, especially after changing tires or having transmission work done. There are cab companies that provide preventative maintenance taximeter inspections to their drivers.

➤ **What can cause a taximeter to be inaccurate?**

Some possible causes include: tires not maintained with proper air pressure, incorrect tire size, or any work or modifications to the transmission.

➤ **Who can I call for questions or to get information regarding laws and regulations?**

Call our Weights and Measures Program at (858) 694-2778 and ask to speak with an inspector or supervisor