

MMRA Policy ~ Control Operator Responsibilities

MMRA Repeaters are owned by the MMRA. The MMRA Executive Board reserves the right to ban anyone from using the repeater system for behavior that:

- Does not adhere to FCC Part 97 legal requirements
- Causes a repeater to operate in a noncompliant fashion
- Reflects poorly upon the amateur radio community
- Hinders the emergency communications process.
- Hinders the legitimate use of the repeater system by any other licensed amateur.

Control Operators (COs) are designated by the MMRA Board of Directors. It is the responsibility of all COs to monitor the repeaters and act to ensure proper and legal usage of the repeaters as representatives of the MMRA. Specifically:

- Although a repeater trustee is the "chief control operator" for their listed repeater, all COs (including all trustees) are COs for all MMRA repeaters.
- All CO's are expected to read and understand FCC Part 97, §97.103, .105 and .113.
- CO's have the responsibility to ensure proper operation of the repeater in accordance with the FCC Rules. Of particular concern are:
 - Proper technical operation of all repeaters.
 - Adherence to the use of proper language by all users, especially as defined by FCC Part 97, §97.113 **Prohibited transmissions** (a)(4) :
Music using a phone emission except as specifically provided elsewhere in this section; communications intended to facilitate a criminal act; messages encoded for the purpose of obscuring their meaning, except as otherwise provided herein; obscene or indecent words or language; or false or deceptive messages, signals or identification.
- If an MMRA CO witnesses repeater operation that does not adhere to the above and has reason to believe that the improper operating will continue, the response should be to turn the repeater off, log all pertinent data (*callsign, time, prohibited behavior*) and notify the MMRA Board of Directors of the issue by email via contact@mmra.org . Discussion of issues "on-the-air" is discouraged.
- After a CO has notified the MMRA board, the Executive Board has the responsibility to (a) decide if the abuse warrants a warning to the offending ham(s) and if so (b) quickly warn the offending ham(s) that they may be denied use of the repeaters in the future. The Executive Board will make all attempts to notify offenders:
 - Via email, by US mail, by telephone, or by any other good faith attempt.
 - On-the-air warnings are highly discouraged but may occur if no other mechanism seems available.
- If after being first informed, the offending ham continues to abuse the repeater system, the Executive Board will inform the ham(s) that their use of the repeaters is revoked. (Proposed letter follows.)
- If the offending ham continues to cause problem(s) after being notified that permission to use the repeaters has been revoked, the FCC will be informed.
- Ignorance of warnings and/or failure of acknowledgement of warnings will affect the Board's decision.



The Minuteman Repeater Association

A non-profit organization providing communications infrastructure and volunteers for community and emergency events.

Minuteman Repeater Association
PO Box 669
Stow, MA 01775-0669

Name
Address
Date

RE: Amateur Radio License [licensee call sign]

Dear:

The MMRA Board of Directors, responsible for the legal use of all MMRA repeaters, requests that you refrain from using the MMRA repeater system. This request is made because you have failed to follow the repeater policy, specifically "[statement of the rule]."

We expect you to abide by this request to stay off the MMRA system from [date] to [date 3 months later]. Your failure to do so will result in a copy of this letter being sent to the FCC notifying them that you have been notified that use of the MMRA repeaters is no longer allowed and that you are continuing to use the repeaters in a manner contrary to FCC Part 97 rules. Such use of a repeater may cause the FCC to initiate enforcement action against your license, which may include revocation, forfeiture, or a modification proceeding to restrict the frequencies on which you may operate [licensee call sign].

At the end of the time indicated above you may resume use of the MMRA repeater system. Future violation of the repeater policy will result in denial of use and permanent revocation of repeater privileges.

If you have questions, please contact MMRA at the above address.

MMRA Board Members

[Signatures]

[Typed names]